HIGHROADS OF HISTORY

SECOND BOOK

ROYAL SCHOOL SERIES

Price 1/-

THOMAS NELSON AND SONS

Flora Macdonald's Introduction to Prince Charlie.

(From the picture by Alexander Johnstone, in the Mappin Art Gallery. By permission of the Corporation of Sheffield.)

125 A

THE ROYAL SCHOOL SERIES

Highroads of History

Illustrated by the great Historical Paintings of the following Artists:—Sir J. E. Millais, W. Q. Orchardson, Benjamin West, Sir Noel Paton, Sir John Gilbert, Daniel Maclise, John Pettie, Paul Delaroche, W. F. Yeames, Robert Herdman, Henrietta Rae, &c. &c.

Book II.—Stories from British History

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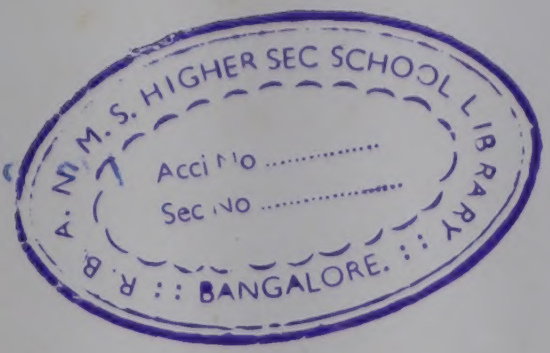

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BOOK II.

1. KING ARTHUR AND THE KNIGHTS OF THE ROUND TABLE.

1. In the first book I told you something about the Britons. You learned that they were overcome by the Romans, who ruled our land for about four hundred years.

2. At the end of that time the Romans left Britain altogether. They had to take their soldiers away from Britain to defend the city of Rome itself.

3. Then Britain became the prey of many cruel foes. The Picts and the Scots swooped down on the land, and time after time English pirates landed to plunder, burn, and kill.

4. While the Romans were masters of Britain, these foes were beaten back; but when the Romans left the country, the Britons were not able to defend themselves.

KING ARTHUR.
(From a statue at Innsbruck.)

5. At this time it is said that there lived in Britain a great king named Arthur. He was the bravest and noblest of men, and he led the Britons to battle against the English in many fights. He is one of our great heroes.

6. Now turn to the picture on page 11, and look at it carefully. It shows you a great hall in a king's palace.

7. You see that it is thronged with knights and squires, ladies and servants. The king himself is present. He is clad in a scarlet robe, and has a crown of gold upon his head.

8. A young knight stands before the king. Arthur holds aloft a great sword, and points towards a round table

of stone. Near at hand are two boys singing a song while a bard is playing upon a harp. What does it all mean?

9. The palace belongs to King Arthur. He has gathered round him a band of knights, all of whom are very brave and very noble. They love their king, and strive to be like him in thought, word, and deed.

10. They are all equal; no one is first, and no one is last. To show that this is so, they sit at a round table. For this reason they are known as the Knights of the Round Table.

11. A young man is now being made a Knight of the Round Table. He has proved himself worthy to join that noble company. On his head you see a ring of gold. This shows that he is the son of a king.

12. You notice that he draws near to the table in a very lowly and humble way. He feels that there is no greater honour in all the world than to be one of Arthur's knights. He takes his place at the table. The trumpets sound, and the other knights greet him as a brother.

13. Many are the brave deeds they will do together; many are the battles they will fight; many are the poor downtrodden people they will help; many are the stories that will be told of them in years to come.

14. Now the bard and the boys sing a song in

honour of their great king. Perhaps it is something like this:—

15. "Blow trumpet, for the world is white with May;
Blow trumpet, the long night hath rolled away!
Blow through the living world. Let the king reign!

16. "Shall Rome or heathen rule in Arthur's realm?—
Flash brand and lance, fall battle-axe on helm,
Fall battle-axe and flash brand! Let the king reign!"

2. STORIES OF ARTHUR.

1. Look at the picture on page 12. It shows you part of the wild northern shore of Cornwall. High up on the cliffs you see bare, gray ruins.

2. A few old walls are all that now remain. Yet this was once the proud castle of Tintagel. More than fourteen hundred years ago King Arthur and his knights kept their court in it.

3. The place is very sad and lonely now. Not a sound is heard, except the wind whistling about the broken walls.

4. Once this silent ruin echoed to the deep voices of brave men and the clang of their arms. It heard the neighing of steeds, the songs of the bards, and the harping of many harpers.

5. When you are older you must read the full history of King Arthur and his knights. The most

Sir Tristram at the Court of Arthur.

(From the fresco by William Dyce, R.A., in the King's Robing-Room in the Houses of Parliament.)

TINTAGEL CASTLE. [Photo by Frith

wonderful stories are told about their doings. All of these stories are not true. Indeed, many of them are nothing but fairy tales.

6. One of these old stories tells us that Arthur was the son of a king, but that this was kept a secret. As a tiny baby he was given to a wizard named Merlin, who placed him in the care of a knight. Arthur was brought up as this knight's son.

7. When the king died, all the lords and knights of the land were called together to choose a new king. They met in a great church in London.

8. While they were at prayers a stone arose in the churchyard. In the middle of the stone was an anvil of steel, and stuck into this anvil, by the point, was a fine sword.

9. On the stone, in letters of gold, these words were written: "Whoso pulleth this sword out of the anvil is the rightful king."

10. Every man who wished to be king tried to pull out the sword, but in vain. No one could do it, not even the strongest man in the land.

11. Now Arthur thought that the knight who took care of him was his father, and that the knight's son was his brother. He went with them to London when the lords and knights were called together.

12. One day the boy Arthur came to the churchyard and saw the sword stuck in the anvil. At once he took it by the hilt, and drew it out of the anvil quite easily.

13. Then he gave it to his brother, who showed it to his father. "By this," said the knight to Arthur, "I know that you must be king of the land. Let me see whether you can put back the sword and pull it out again."

14. The old knight and the two boys went to the churchyard. Arthur put back the sword into the anvil, and drew it forth again as easily as before. Then the old knight and his son knelt

The Passing of Arthur.

(*From the picture by Robert Hope.*)

down before Arthur and said, "Sir, you are king."

15. A great meeting of the lords and people was held, and Arthur pulled the sword out of the anvil before them all. Then the people cried, "We will have Arthur for our king!"

16. So Arthur was crowned, and he began to choose his Knights of the Round Table. Then at their head he fought against the foes of his land and overcame them.

3. THE LAST BRITISH KING.

1. Another old story tells us that some of the chiefs of the land would not have Arthur to rule over them. They rose against him, and strove to kill him.

2. So Arthur took five hundred of his best men and went with them to a strong tower. The draw-bridge was pulled up, the gates were made fast, and Arthur waited for the coming of his foes.

3. The chiefs put soldiers all round the tower, so that no one could enter or leave it. In this way they hoped to starve Arthur and his men, and force them to come out and fight.

4. Then the wizard Merlin came to the chiefs, and told them that Arthur was the son of the last

king, and the rightful heir to the throne. Some of the chiefs believed him, but others did not.

5. Merlin was Arthur's friend and helper. He told Arthur to lead his men out of the castle, and boldly attack the chiefs and their soldiers.

6. "By your side," said Merlin, "wear the magic sword which you plucked out of the anvil. Do not use it unless you are in great danger. Then draw it and do your best."

7. Arthur led his men forth to battle. Long and fierce was the fight, and Arthur and his knights did many brave deeds. At last Arthur's horse was killed under him, and his life was in great danger.

8. Then he drew the magic sword. It gleamed like the light of thirty torches. As he waved it, its flashing beams half blinded his foes. They could not see to strike back, and they were afraid of the strange sight. Arthur slew many of them, and the rest fled.

9. Arthur fought twelve great battles with the English, and kept them from spreading over the country. At last some of the British joined with the English, and together they overcame Arthur. One by one his knights fell around him, and then he too was stricken to the ground.

10. The old story tells us that, as he lay dying, the king called the last of his knights and bade him throw the magic sword into a lake.

11. The sword was flung high into the air, and as it fell a hand came out of the water and caught it by the hilt. Three times the sword was waved, and then it was drawn under the water.

12. Then Arthur said: "My end draws near. Carry me to the edge of the water." The knight took the dying king on his back, and carried him to the shore.

13. There they saw a barge covered with black. On the deck were three queens with crowns of gold. Arthur was placed in the barge, and the three queens tended him gently.

14. Then the king bade his knight farewell, and the barge slowly moved across the water. Very sad and lonely, the knight watched it disappear. He saw it

> "Down that long water, opening on the deep
> Somewhere far off, pass on and on, and go
> From less to less, and vanish into light,
> And the new sun rose bringing the new year."

4. THE SLAVE BOYS AT ROME.

1. The "new year" was a sad one for the British. Their great leader was now dead, and they could no longer meet the English in battle.

2. Fresh bands from over the sea swarmed into the country, and in less than a hundred years after

the death of Arthur the English were masters of nearly all the land.

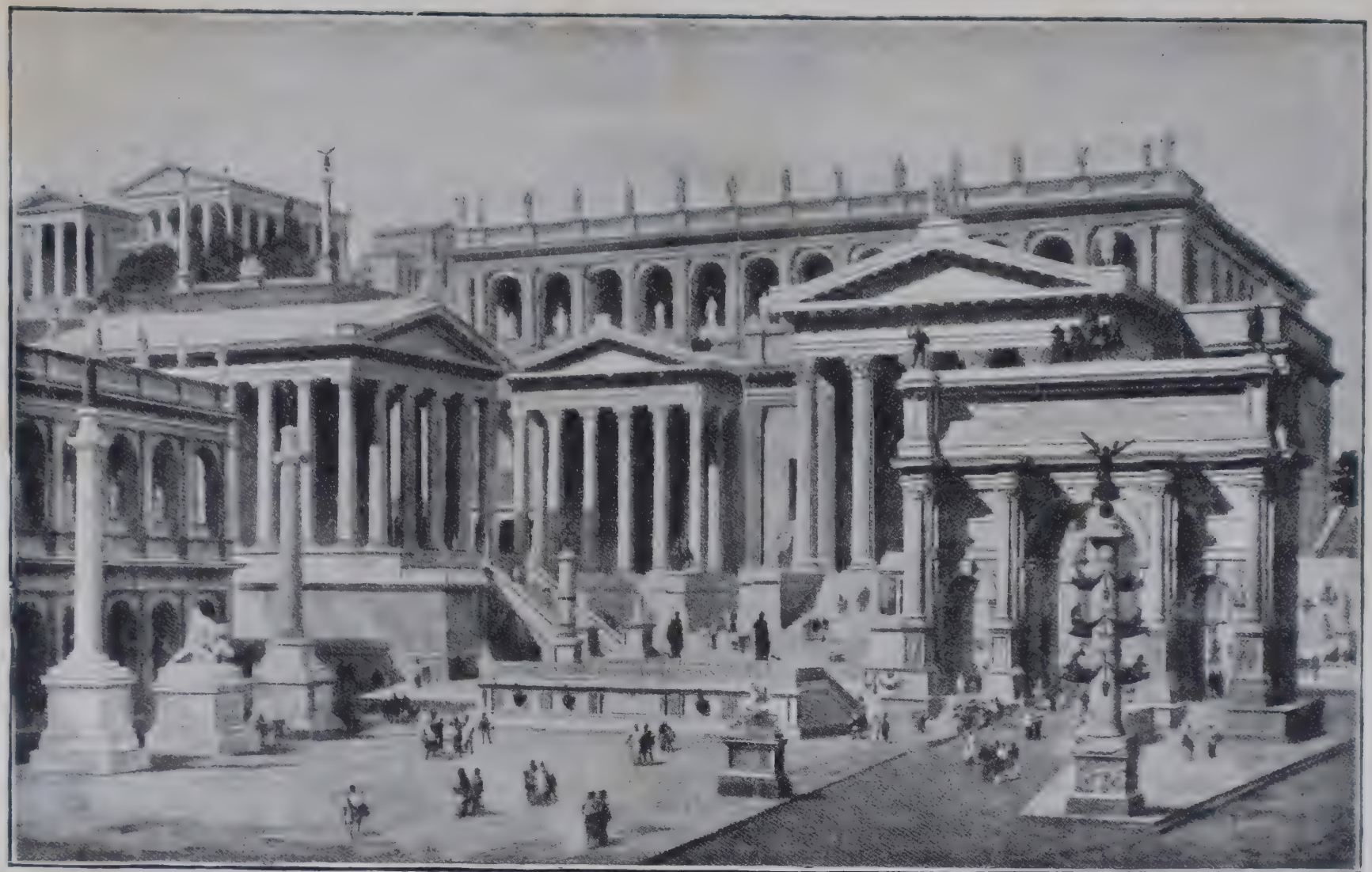
3. Many of the Britons had become Christians, and Arthur was a Christian king. The English, however, were heathens. They thought that the sun, the moon, the sea, the trees, and many other things, were gods.

4. One of their chief gods was Thor, the thunder god. When they heard the crash of the thunder, they said that Thor was striking the world with his hammer. Another of their gods was Woden, the god of wisdom. He was said to be the father of their kings.

5. The English were wild, rough men, and they loved fighting better than life itself. They said that a man who was killed in battle went at once to the home of the gods. There he fought or hunted all day, and at night feasted, and drank ale out of the skulls of his enemies. What a wild, warlike faith it was!

6. Now look at this picture. It shows you the great market-place at Rome. In this market-place, more than thirteen hundred years ago, stood three little English boys. Their faces were pink and white, their eyes were blue, and they had long yellow hair. They looked very different from the Roman boys with their black hair and dark skin.

7. A monk passing by stopped to look at the lads.



THE FORUM OR MARKET-PLACE AT ROME AS IT APPEARED IN THE DAYS OF POPE GREGORY.

Poor little fellows! They had been snatched from their parents and homes, and brought to this strange, great city of Rome to be sold as slaves.

8. They had not a single friend in all the city. They could not understand a word of what the people around them were saying. No wonder they were sad. How should you feel if you had been in their place?

9. Beside them stood their master, a keen, hard-faced slave-dealer, waiting for some one to buy the lads. The monk, whose name was Gregory, asked him, "To what people do these boys belong?" "They are Angles," said the man. "Angles!" cried Gregory; "they should be *angels*, they are so beautiful."

10. Then he asked, "What is the name of their king?" "Ella," was the reply. "Ella!" exclaimed Gregory. "Alleluiah! The praises of God shall one day be sung in Ella's land."

11. Years went by, but Gregory never forgot the little English lads he had seen in the slave market. He thought of their distant home, and longed to visit it, so that he might turn its people to the true God.

12. Once he set out on the journey, but the Romans would not let him leave their city. They loved him so much that they kept him at home, and made him Pope or Bishop of Rome. Then, one happy day, the chance came for which he had waited so long.

5. HOW THE ENGLISH BECAME CHRISTIANS.

1. Now look very carefully at the picture on page 23. In the middle of it you see a king and a queen sitting on a raised platform.

2. Around them are soldiers, nobles, and peasants, all listening to a monk dressed in robes of silk trimmed with gold. Behind him are other monks. One of them bears a silver image of Christ upon the cross.

3. The king is Ethelbert of Kent. He worships Woden and Thor, and the other gods of the English. The queen is his wife Bertha, the daughter of a French king. She is a Christian, and she longs to turn her husband to the true faith.

4. Bertha has got her husband to write a letter to Pope Gregory, asking him to send monks to England. Gregory has gladly done so. He has sent a band of forty monks to England, with Augustine at their head.

5. Augustine and his monks have landed on the shores of Kent. They have sent a message to the king, and he has now come to hear what they have to say.

6. Turn to the picture again. A throne has been set up in the open air, and Ethelbert and Bertha have taken their seats upon it. Now Augustine begins to speak.

7. He tells the king the old, old story. It is

almost new to the king, and he listens to it eagerly. Then he makes reply: "Your words and promises seem fair, but all that you say is new and strange to me.

8. "I cannot give up the faith of my fathers; but you are welcome here, and I will keep you safe from harm. If any of my people wish to follow your teaching, they may do so."

9. This speech shows that Ethelbert was a wise and noble heathen. We may be sure that Bertha's eyes shone with delight at her husband's words. After long, long years, the day for which she had prayed and hoped had come at last.

10. Augustine and his monks soon taught many of the people the worship of the true God. Before long, Augustine was able to send a letter to Rome telling Gregory that over ten thousand of the English had become Christians. At their head was Ethelbert, king of Kent.

11. The Christian faith began to spread far and wide, and Augustine became the first Archbishop of Canterbury. One hundred years after Augustine's landing nearly all the English were Christians.

12. Oaks spring from tiny acorns, and great rivers begin in little rills. From the "little angels" in the slave market at Rome sprang the vast and wonderful change which took place in the faith of the English people.

(1,240)

Augustine preaching to Ethelbert and Bertha.

(From the picture by Stephen B. Carlill.)

6. HOW A PRINCE CAME INTO HIS OWN.

1. When the Romans came to this country, they came in one body, under the command of one general. When the English came to conquer the British, they came in many bands, each with its own chief.

2. Each band conquered a part of the country for itself, and its chief became king of that part of the country. Thus, at one time, there were many kings in England.

3. About the time when Augustine died, there were seven kings in the land. The most powerful of them all was Ethelbert, of whom we read in the last lesson.

4. I am now going to tell you about the king who first became overlord of the other kings. His name was Edwin. His father ruled over one of the kingdoms in the north of England.

5. When his father died, Edwin was only a little baby. At once a king named Ethelfrith seized the kingdom, and tried to put the child to death. Edwin's friends, however, sent him away to Wales, where a British king took charge of him, and brought him up to be a brave knight.

6. When he was a young man, Edwin wandered about the country without a home. At last he got tired of this kind of life, and went to the court of

Redwald, who was king over part of East England. He told Redwald who he was, and Redwald said that he would protect him.

7. Ethelfrith soon heard that Edwin was at Redwald's court. Then he sent to Redwald and offered him much gold if he would murder Edwin. At first Redwald said "No." But Ethelfrith offered him more gold, and said that he would make war upon him if he did not give up his guest. Redwald at last agreed to do so.

8. Now Edwin had a friend in Redwald's wife. She told him that strangers were plotting to kill him, and begged him to fly. "Whither can I fly?" he cried. "Let them kill me if they wish to do so." Then he left the palace and sat down on a stone before the door.

9. There he sat through the long cold night, and as he sat he fell asleep. He dreamed that a strange, noble-looking man came to him and asked him what he would give to the person who should place him on his father's throne. "All — everything!" cried Edwin.

10. The stranger made the young prince promise to obey the one who should teach him about the true God. Then he placed his hand upon the prince's head, and told him to remember that sign. Soon after Edwin awoke.

11 Meanwhile Redwald's wife had begged her

husband not to give up Edwin to Ethelfrith. "A king," she said, "should keep faith, and you have promised Edwin to befriend him. Do right, and never fear what may come of it."

12. The queen's noble words made Redwald ashamed of himself. He sent word to Ethelfrith that he would not give up his guest. War broke out, and a great battle was fought. The fight was long and fierce, but at last Redwald's men won the day, and Ethelfrith lay dead upon the field.

7. THE GREATEST KING OF HIS TIME.

1. Edwin now became king of Ethelfrith's wide kingdom, and ruled all the country from the river Humber to the Tweed. Then he looked about him for a wife.

2. In his wanderings he had seen the fair sister of the king of Kent, and now he asked her to marry him. Her name was Ethelburga.

3. She was the daughter of that good Queen Bertha who had turned her husband from his old heathen worship.

4. Ethelburga was a Christian, but Edwin was still a heathen. Her brother, who was king of Kent, thought that a Christian ought not to marry a heathen

5. Edwin said that if Ethelburga would be his wife, she might keep her own faith, and bring priests with her to her northern home.

6. He also promised to study the Christian faith himself. If he found it better than his own, he would become a Christian.

7. Ethelburga trusted Edwin. She was quite ready to be his wife, for she loved him, and hoped to make him and his people Christians. What her mother had done in Kent, she would try to do in Edwin's kingdom.

8. She took with her to Edwin's court a priest named Paulinus. The new queen and Paulinus strove hard to turn Edwin from his heathen gods, but all in vain.

9. One day, as Edwin sat in his palace, a stranger came to him with a message from one of his foes. The stranger knelt before Edwin, and then suddenly springing to his feet, drew a dagger from under his cloak, and rushed upon the king.

10. A knight threw himself between them, and the blow meant for the king pierced the heart of his faithful servant and friend. So fierce was the thrust that the dagger passed through the body of the knight and slightly wounded the king.

11. It was a narrow escape, and Paulinus told the king that he ought to thank the good God

COLUMBA PREACHING.

(From the picture by William Hole, R.S.A.)

who had saved his life. Edwin felt very thankful, and thought deeply about the matter.

12. One day, as he sat lost in thought, Paulinus came to him. He placed his hand on the king's head, and asked him if he remembered that sign.

13. Edwin at once thought of his dream, and said that if God would give him a victory over his foes he would become a Christian. He won a battle, but he did not even then give up his false gods. He called his wise men together to talk the matter over.

8. A GREAT PREACHER.

1. Paulinus preached to the wise men, and told them the gospel story. Then an old earl took up the tale. "The life of man," said he, "is like a sparrow flying through the hall at night-time, when the warm fire glows on the hearth and the storm rages outside.

2. "The sparrow flies in at one door, and stays for a moment in the light and heat. Then it flies out at the other door, and vanishes into the wintry darkness whence it came.

3. "Man is like the swallow. He stays for a short time on this earth, but where he comes from and whither he is going we know not. If Paulinus can tell us these things, let us listen to him and follow his teaching."

4. Paulinus spoke again and again with burning words. Then up sprang an old heathen priest. "O king," he cried, "no one has been so faithful to the old gods as I, but they have never done anything for me. They are false, they are vain."

5. So saying, he left the hall, and leaping on horseback, dashed off to the temple of the gods. When he reached it he hurled his spear at the idol of Woden. He did this to show that he feared the heathen god no longer.

6. Edwin and his wise men became Christians, and then Paulinus began to teach the people. He was a tall man, with a thin face, and black hair falling on his shoulders.

7. To and fro he went, and crowds came to hear his words. In the county of Northumberland you may still see a well where he baptized some thousands of Edwin's people.

8. Edwin now became the most powerful king in the land. No king of England had ever been so powerful before. He ruled well, and his kingdom was very peaceful.

9. It was said that for the first time a woman with her baby might walk through his land without being harmed by any one. Edwin had a good heart, and this led him to do many kind deeds.

10. Some of the kings hated him, and joined together to overthrow him. Their leader was an old

heathen king. He joined the British, or Welsh, as the English called them, and together they fought a great battle with Edwin.

11. Edwin was slain, and his head was held aloft on a spear. When his soldiers saw this sad sight they fled. For a short time the old heathen king was master of the land. At length he was overthrown and slain. Then came a time of much bloodshed and misery.

12. Nearly two hundred years after Edwin's death, a prince named Egbert arose, and he became the first real overlord of all England. An old story tells us that he was once rowed on the river Dee at Chester by six kings, all of whom owned him as their lord.

9. "THE FATHER OF THE BRITISH NAVY."

1. No doubt you have heard the saying, "Britain is mistress of the seas." It means that we have the most powerful fleet of warships afloat.

2. This fleet enables us to hold great countries abroad. Our warships guard the highway of the sea for us, so that our trading vessels may come and go in peace. Because we have been powerful on the sea for many years, we have become a very great and very wealthy nation.

3. Now look at the picture on page 33. It shows

you a fleet of warships crossing the North Sea. They are Danish ships, and they are now drawing near our coast. The leading ship has already begun to lower her sail.

4. These long black ships or "keels" are very different from the warships of to-day. Their great broad sails carry them along swiftly when the wind is fair; when the wind is against them, fifty stout rowers pull at the long oars.

5. All round the ship hang the bright shields of the Danes, who are clad in armour, and carry heavy axes and spears. If you could see their flags, you would notice that the figure of an eagle or a serpent, a bear, a wolf, or a raven, is painted on them. These creatures are fierce, but the Danes who man these ships are far fiercer.

6. Now look at the people on the shore. You see at a glance that they fear the coming of the strangers. Well may they be afraid.

7. The little village close at hand is happy and peaceful in the morning sunshine. It has many cosy little farmhouses, and the smiling fields give promise of a good harvest. Alas! all will be changed when these Sea-Wolves land and begin their cruel work.

8. Men, women, and children will be slain; the cattle will be carried off; and the smoke of burning farmhouses will darken the sky. The Danes are

How the Danes came up the Channel a thousand Years ago.

(From the picture by Herbert A. Bone, exhibited in the Academy in 1890. By permission of the Artist.)

heathens, and they will not even spare the house of God.

9. The Danes first landed on our shores in the spring of the year 877. At first they only came to rob the English of their cattle and goods. Soon they grew bolder, and began to settle down in the land, just as the English had done some three hundred years before.

10. In the first book I told you about the many fierce fights which good King Alfred fought against the Danes. You know that they drove Alfred from his throne, and that he had to fly to the woods and marshes for safety.

11. You also know that at last he led his men against the Danes, and forced them to yield. Their leader became a Christian, and he and his men agreed to live peacefully in a part of the east of England.

12. Soon other large Danish fleets sailed to our shores. At last Alfred saw that he must meet the Danes before they landed, and fight them on the sea. He therefore built ships nearly twice as large and swifter and stronger than those of the Sea-Wolves.

13. Before the end of his reign he had over a hundred ships keeping guard over the coast of England. Alfred thus built the first English fleet of warships. We may therefore call him the "Father of the British Navy."

10. HEREWARD THE WAKE.—I.

1. About one hundred years after the death of Alfred, a Dane became king of England. He was the King Canute about whom you read in the first book.

2. His two wild, lawless sons followed him on the throne, but when they died the wise men of the land chose an English king belonging to Alfred's family. His name was Edward.

3. He had lived for many years in Normandy, or North France, and he was never happy unless he had Normans about him. He gave them lands and riches, and the chief posts in the country.

4. Edward had no son. After his death, the English chose Harold, the eldest son of the great Earl Godwin, to be their king. He was very brave, and the people of South England loved him.

5. William, Duke of Normandy, however, thought that *he* ought to be king. He said that Edward had left the crown to him, and that Harold had promised to help him.

6. You read in the first book how William gathered together a great army, built a fleet of ships, and set sail for England.

7. A fierce battle took place at Hastings. The Normans won, and Harold was slain. William then pushed on to London, where he was crowned king.

Coronation of William the Conqueror.

(*From the picture by John Cross.*)

When William was being crowned in Westminster Abbey, the archbishop, according to the old custom, asked the Norman and English nobles if they would have William for their king. They replied with loud shouts. The Norman soldiers outside the abbey thought that William was being attacked. They therefore fell on the people and set fire to the neighbouring houses. The picture shows the scene of alarm within the abbey. After a time order was restored, and the archbishop placed the crown on William's head.

8. Now, though William was king, he was by no means master of the country. For four long years he had to fight battle after battle. Only then were the English really overcome.

9. Look at the map of England. On the east coast you see a wide, open bay called the Wash. The country round it, and for many miles inland, is very flat and low-lying.

10. This part of England is known as the Fens. In the time of which we are speaking it was a vast swamp, overgrown with reeds.

11. There was very little solid ground to be found, and the roads were few and far between. A stranger to the Fens would soon have found himself waist-deep in the bog.

12. Here and there were "islands" of firmer and higher ground. One of these islands, in the heart of the Fens, was known as Eel Island. We now know it as Ely.

13. In this wild waste the English who would not yield to William gathered together and formed a camp. Their leader was a bold and dashing Englishman named Hereward.

14. He was so wide-awake that no one could take him unawares. For this reason he was called Hereward the Watcher, or Hereward the Wake.

15. Hereward built a wooden castle on Ely, and stocked it with large stores of food. Then for a whole

ELY AS IT IS TO-DAY. [*Photo by Frith.*

year he and his men dared William to do his worst. The swamps, the streams, and the meres round about them kept them safe from William's army.

16. Brave men flocked to Hereward from all parts of the country. From time to time they dashed out upon the Normans and slew many of them. Then they returned to their camp, and the Normans could not follow them.

17. At last William saw that he must take Hereward's camp or lose England. He marched a great army northwards, and set up his camp a few miles from Ely. Then he made a narrow, firm road down to the brink of a river, and so reached a spot about half a mile from Ely.

18. The half-mile between him and Ely was water and black mud, which no man could cross unless he knew the narrow secret path. This path was known only to Hereward and his friends, and to the monks who lived on the island.

19. Across this half-mile of water and black mud William tried to make a road. He drove posts into the mud, but they would not hold. Then he began to make a bridge of long beams, to float on the water and mud.

20. To protect his soldiers from the English arrows, William made a great floating fort. It was called a sow, and it was pushed in front of the men who were making the bridge

II. HEREWARD THE WAKE.—II.

1. At last the bridge was finished. William's army began to cross it, but only one man reached Hereward's camp. The weight of the men broke down the bridge, and thousands of them were thrown into the slimy water, where they were swallowed up by the mud.

2. William's attack had failed, but he was not the man to give in. He made the road broader and stronger, and ordered the fishermen of the Ouse to bring their boats to help him in making a new bridge.

3. Hereward shaved his head and beard, and came with the fishermen. He worked hard all day, and then, at night, he set fire to the bridge and burnt it down.

4. This he did again and again; but the bridge grew, and at last it was finished, all but about fifty yards. It was so strong that William rode on it on horseback.

5. Now the Normans thought that Hereward was helped by magic, so they got an old witch and placed her in a high wooden tower. This they pushed across the bridge in front of the army.

6. The witch on the top of the tower shouted curses at the English. The Normans drew near to the end of their bridge. Then they thrust out beams and rafts on which to cross the fifty yards of clear water.

7 Suddenly William noticed smoke and flame in the reeds which grew thickly everywhere. Hereward had set the reeds on fire.

8. William saw at once that the flame would soon reach the bridge and burn it. At once he shouted, "Men, draw off! We will attack again to-morrow."

9. It was too late. The fire leaped onward, and soon William's men were in a ring of flame. Then the timbers of the bridge caught fire, and many of the men flung themselves into the water to escape burning. The scene was dreadful. Next day William marched away with his army.

10. Soon, however, he tried again. This time he put soldiers on every road that led to the island. In a short time food became scarce in the English camp, and Hereward's men were starving.

11. Then William sent to the monks of Ely, and told them that unless they helped him he would take all their lands from them, and punish them in other ways. The monks were afraid, and one of their number showed William the secret path which led to the island.

12. The Normans came along it silently, and at last entered Ely. Hereward just managed to make his escape. Many of the English were slain, many were blinded and ill-treated in other ways. Thus the last rising against William came to an end.

HEREWARD YIELDING TO WILLIAM.

(From the drawing by H. C. Selous. By permission of the Art Union of London.)

13. William was a brave man himself, and he loved an "open foe." He therefore sent to Hereward and offered to pardon him. Hereward swore to be William's man, and fought for him bravely in France.

14. We cannot be certain how Hereward died. It is said that some Norman knights who hated him came upon him one day when he was sleeping in his orchard. They attacked him, but he fought long and fiercely with them. At last he fell dead, with four lances in his body.

15. His friends mourned for him, and called him the "last of the English." William himself said that if there had been three more men like Hereward in England, they would have driven the Normans out of the land altogether.

12. THE NEW FOREST.

1. Look again at the map of England. Off the south coast you see the Isle of Wight. Between the island and the mainland is a strait, and from this strait an arm of the sea runs northward. To the west of this arm of the sea lies the New Forest.

2. It is a very old forest now, but it was new about eight hundred years ago, when William of Normandy was king of England. William was a

great hunter, and he set aside large tracts of country as royal forests.

3. In them lived the deer and the wild boar. No one might disturb them, and no one might hunt them but the king and his friends. Any other man who was caught killing the king's game was put to death.

THE RUFUS STONE.

4. One of the forests made by William was this New Forest. It is said that he was very cruel to the poor people who lived in this part of the country.

5. He burned down their villages and laid waste their fields, in order to turn the land into wild forest. Men, women, and children suddenly found themselves homeless, and many of them died of cold and hunger.

6. Now look at this picture. It shows you a part of the New Forest as it is to-day. It is a picture of the place where one of our kings met his death. He was called William the Red, and he was the son of the William about whom you read in the last lesson.

7. The Red King was so called because he had red hair and a red face. He was a cruel, greedy man. He robbed his people and treated them very cruelly. Like his father, he loved hunting, and often chased the deer in the New Forest.

8. Now let me tell you the story of his death in verse :—

"The Red King's gone a-hunting, in the woods his father made,
Where the red deer love to wander through the thicket and the glade;
The king, Sir Walter Tyrrel, Prince Henry, and the rest,
Are all gone out upon the sport the Red King loves the best.

9. "There are many in the forest who would gladly see the sport
When the king goes out a-hunting with the nobles of his court;
And when the nobles scatter, and the king is left alone,
There are thickets where an Englishman might bend his bow unknown.

10. "The forest laws are cruel, and the time is hard as steel
To English slaves, all trodden down beneath the Norman heel.
Like worms they be; but by-and-by the Norman heel may learn
There are worms that carry poison, and that are not slow to turn.

11. "The lords came back, by one and two, from straying far apart,
And they found the Red King lying with an arrow in his heart.

Who should have done the deed but him by whom it first was seen?
So they said 'twas Walter Tyrrel—and so it may have been.

12. "They shouted for Prince Henry, the brother of the king,
And he came up the greenwood and rode into the ring.
He looked upon his brother's face, and then he turned away
And galloped off to Winchester, where all the treasure lay

13. "'Now haste ye,' cried a noble; 'the prince, you see, has fled,
And 'twere not well that you and I were found beside the dead.'
They spurred their horses in the flank, and swiftly thence they passed,
But Walter Tyrrel lingered, and forsook his lord the last.

14. "Then a creaking cart came slowly—'twas a charcoal-burner's wain.
The driver saw the body; he saw the scarlet stain.
He raised the corpse for charity; 'twas on his wagon laid:
And so the Red King drove in state from out the forest glade."

15. No one really knows who killed the king. Most people believe that Sir Walter Tyrrel shot at a stag and missed it. The arrow then glanced off a tree and struck the king in the breast. The tree has gone, but a stone near the spot tells the tale in a few words.

16. The English were only too glad to be rid of the Red King. He had done nothing but evil all his life. They said that he was well repaid for the cruel deeds which he and his father had done.

17. Strange to say, another son of William the First was killed by a stag, not far from the place where the Red King fell.

13. "GOD WILLS IT!"

1. In the first book I told you something about the Wars of the Cross. You will remember that these wars were fought against the Turks, who were, and still are, masters of the Holy Land.

2. The Turks are not Christians. In early times men thought that the land where Jesus had lived and taught and died ought to be in the hands of Christians. They therefore tried to win the Holy Land from the Turks.

3. The wars which they fought were called Crusades, because the soldiers wore a cross on their breasts. There were many of these wars, and the first of them took place four years before the death of the Red King.

4. The first man to stir up the people to fight against the Turks was a monk named Peter. He had been to Jerusalem, and had seen how badly the Turks treated the Christians who wished to visit the tomb of our Lord. When he came home, he went to and fro preaching to the people in the open air.

5. Look at the picture on page 48. You see Peter standing on the steps of a church, holding a cross on high, and calling upon his hearers to join in the Crusade.

6. Notice how the people are flocking to offer

"GOD WILLS IT!"

(From the picture by James Archer, R.S.A. By permission of the Autotype Co.)

themselves as soldiers. On the steps is a young noble, whose wife is trying to hold him back. Close by is a knight kissing the hilt of his sword, and vowing to give his life in the Holy War.

7. Behind him an old mother is trying to prevent her only son from leaving her. Women are vowing that their children shall become soldiers of the Cross when they are old enough; boys and girls are begging to be allowed to fight the Turk. Even a lame man cries out that he will go to the Holy Land.

8. The women are as eager as the men. They cry, "God wills it!" In the right-hand corner of the picture you see a poor widow urging her cold, selfish son to go to the war. He is one of the few who do *not* cry, "God wills it!"

9. So powerful was Peter's preaching that tradesmen left their benches, husbands left their wives, only sons left their widowed mothers, women dressed themselves as men, and thousands upon thousands started for the Holy Land.

10. In the first book I told you about Richard of the Lion Heart. When he set sail for the Holy Land two Crusades had already been fought, and Jerusalem had been won. The Turks, however, had taken the city once more, and were again masters of the land.

11. Richard did wonders during the war. He fought his way to Jerusalem, but he would not gaze upon it, for he could not take it.

THE CHILDREN'S CRUSADE

(From the picture by E. F. Skinner)

12. At last the Turks promised to let Christians worship at the tomb of our Lord, and then Richard set sail for home. I told you in the first book what happened to him on the way.

13. After the death of Richard, his wicked brother John became king of England. In his reign the people cared very little about the Crusades.

14. So many lives and so much money had been spent that they were not willing to spend more. The Crusades had failed, and the people were not yet ready to try again

14. THE CHILDREN'S CRUSADE.

1. Now look at this picture. It shows you a French city. Two white horses are drawing a chariot, in which stands a golden-haired boy dressed in white robes.

2. Behind him you see a crowd of children, girls as well as boys. They are carrying red-cross banners. An old priest is urging them on.

3. What does it all mean? It means that the children have started a Crusade of their own. The boy in the chariot is a shepherd lad. He believes that God has chosen him to overcome the Turks. He and the priests have been preaching to the little ones, and now they are on their way to the Holy Land.

4. Thirty thousand children have left their homes. Bolts and bars cannot hold them back; their parents cannot stop them. Some of the parents, indeed, are eager for their children to go. The Pope has sent the children banners and blessings.

5. The priests said that God would work a miracle and give the victory to the children. The men had failed because they were sinful; the children would win because they were free from sin. They would march to the Holy City and cry, "Hosanna to the Highest!" Then the walls would fall down, and the Turks would fly away in terror.

6. So the children began the march with their boy-leader at their head. The people of the towns and villages through which they passed gave them food. On they went, singing songs and hymns.

7. The poor children did not know that Jerusalem was more than a thousand miles away. Every time they saw the walls and towers of a town in the distance, they would ask, "Is it Jerusalem? Are we there yet?"

8. The children grew very weary and very hungry, and some of them died by the wayside. At last they came to the shores of the sea that rolled between them and the Holy Land.

9. They thought that God would divide the waters, as He did those of the Red Sea, so that they might march across dryshod.

Crusaders on the March.

(From the picture by Sir John Gilbert, R.A., in the South Kensington Museum.)

10. Three times their leader smote the waves with his staff, but nothing happened. Then the children wept and wailed, and some of them turned towards home again.

11. Many, however, marched on to a large seaport, and went on board seven ships. Two of the ships were wrecked. The other ships reached a seaport on the coast of Africa, where many of the children were seized and sold as slaves.

12. Most of the poor children never saw their parents or their homes again. Alas, that so many brave little lives should have been thrown away!

15. ROBIN HOOD AND HIS MERRY MEN.—I.

1. Richard of the Lion Heart was a most brave and gallant knight, but he was a bad king of England. During his reign the English people were in a very wretched state.

2. They were made poor by very heavy taxes, and they were made unhappy by harsh and cruel laws. The Norman nobles treated them worse than dogs. In return, the English hated their masters, and did them harm whenever they could.

3. There are not many forests in England now, but in Richard's time thick woods covered a large part of the country.

4. A man might live in these woods and be safe from his foes. They could not easily track him through the pathless forests.

5. Look at a map of England, and find the county of Nottingham. There are still some fine woods to be seen in this county. These woods are all that remain of the great Sherwood Forest, which once was twenty-five miles long and from seven to nine miles wide.

6. Now look at the picture on page 58. It shows you Sherwood Forest in the days of King Richard. The man leaning against the tree is Robin Hood. He is looking on while his men make merry.

7. Robin Hood was a splendid bowman; no one could shoot straighter than he. It is said that he could shoot an arrow that would split a willow wand a hundred paces away.

8. Near him you see some of his friends. One of them is so tall and stout that his companions as a joke call him Little John. Another member of the band is a monk named Friar Tuck. The lady who stands by Robin's side is Maid Marian.

9. Robin Hood lives in the greenwood because he is an outlaw. The king's men would hang him if they could catch him. He is a robber, but he only robs the rich, and what he takes from them he gives to the poor.

10. The poor people love him because he is not

Richard the First and Robin Hood.

(From the picture by T. H. Robinson.)

only brave and kind, but always ready to punish the proud lords who ill-treat them.

11. Many stories have been told in verse about the doings of Robin Hood and his merry men. When you are older you can read them for yourselves. I might fill this book with them, but I can only tell you one of the stories now.

12. One day Little John met a knight in the forest. The knight looked very sad, and Little John asked him to come and dine with Robin Hood. The knight did so, and Robin asked him why he looked so unhappy.

13. The knight said that he was poor, and had borrowed four hundred pounds from a great abbot. This money had to be paid back on the very next day. If it were not paid back then, the knight's land would be taken from him, and he, his wife, and his children would be beggars.

16. ROBIN HOOD AND HIS MERRY MEN.—II.

1. Robin Hood was sorry for the knight, and at once lent him the money. Then the knight rode off to pay the abbot what he owed him. Now the abbot did not want the money; he wanted the knight's land. The abbot sat in his hall waiting for the knight, and hoping that he would not come.

THE OUTLAWS IN SHERWOOD FOREST.

(From an old lithograph in the Mechanics' Institute, Nottingham.)

2. The knight came at last. He had the money with him in a bag. Before paying it, he thought he would find out whether the abbot was a merciful man or not. So he said that he could not pay, and begged the abbot to give him time.

3. "The abbot sternly on him looked,
And shameful names did call.
'Out, out,' he said, 'thou base, false knight;
Go, get thee from my hall!'"

4. Then the knight was sure that the abbot was a hard, greedy man, who did not want his money but his land. At once he paid the debt, and went forth singing merrily, for all his care was gone.

5. Some time after, the abbot was riding through the forest, when Robin Hood's men saw him. They took the abbot to their leader, and Robin found that he was carrying a bag full of gold.

6. Robin took the gold from the abbot, and then sent him away. Soon the knight came to pay back the four hundred pounds which Robin had lent him.

7. Robin, however, would not have it. "Keep it," he cried; "and take this bag of gold to add to it. It comes from the greedy abbot who tried to wrong you."

8. Once King Richard himself came to take the outlaw. It is said that they fought, and that in the combat King Richard found his match. Afterwards the king made friends with him.

9. Robin went to court with the king, and lived there for a year. He soon got tired of life at court, and longed for the gay freedom of the green-wood once more.

THE MAJOR OAK IN SHERWOOD FOREST. [*Photo by Barrett Southwell*

(*It is said that ten persons can stand up inside this old tree.*)

10. An old song tells us that at last Robin Hood became very sick. He went to a house in which nuns lived, and asked them to nurse him. They took him in, but they treated him so badly that he soon lay on his death-bed.

11. Just before his death he blew three blasts on

his horn, and Little John came running to him. "Give me my bow and an arrow," he said. "I will shoot the arrow through this window. Where it strikes the ground, there dig my grave and bury me." Robin fired his last shot, and was buried where the arrow fell.

12. We must not think of Robin Hood as a robber and nothing more. Just as Hereward in his camp at Ely fought the Normans, so did Robin Hood in Sherwood Forest fight those who cruelly used his fellow-countrymen.

13. The Normans could not overcome Robin Hood, nor could they overcome the English people. They beat them and robbed them, and put many of them to death; but the English people would not give in. As the years went by the Normans became English, and were proud to call themselves Englishmen.

17. THE STORY OF LITTLE PRINCE ARTHUR

1. King John was the worst king who ever sat on the English throne. He was a bad, cruel man. His whole life was spent in evil-doing. In this lesson I am going to tell you about the worst of his evil deeds.

2. King John was the brother of King Richard of the Lion Heart. Some people said that the rightful king was John's nephew, a little prince

named Arthur. He was only twelve years of age, and in those rough, warlike days men wanted a full-grown king to lead them to battle.

3. Now the little fellow had many friends, and John was afraid that they would try to make him king. So the wicked uncle seized the boy and shut him up in a gloomy castle. How sad poor Arthur was!

4. Now look at the picture on page 65. It shows you a room in the castle. The man in the picture is the keeper of the castle; his name is Hubert. Notice the troubled look on his face. The boy who is clutching his arm and looking up at him so eagerly is Prince Arthur.

5. Why is Hubert so troubled? He is a kind-hearted man, and he does not know what to do. The king has sent two cruel men to burn out Arthur's eyes. Hubert cannot bear to hurt the lad, but he dare not disobey the king.

6. When the boy sees the men with their red-hot irons, he begs and prays Hubert to spare him. The poor little friendless lad weeps bitter tears. At last Hubert makes up his mind. He says that, come what may, no one shall harm the boy.

7. He sends the cruel men away; but soon another man comes and says that the king has sent him to kill the boy. Hubert drives him off too. Then the king sends soldiers to carry the lad

CASTLE OF PALAISE, IN WHICH ARTHUR WAS IMPRISONED.

away to a castle where the governor will do as he bids him.

8. The poor boy was never seen again. It is said that one night he was roused from his bed and told to go with his jailer.

9. The prince and the jailer went to the water-side, where a boat was waiting. The boy was pushed into the boat, and there he found his uncle and another man.

10. The poor lad begged his cruel uncle not to murder him, but all in vain. A dagger gleamed once or twice in the moonlight; there was a dull splash, and the little body, weighed down with heavy stones, sank to the bottom of the river.

11. The wicked king never afterwards had a moment's peace or happiness. Towards the close of his life he became quite mad, and with a band of hired soldiers went through the country burning the towns and slaying his people.

12. One day, while he and his soldiers were crossing the Wash, the tide overtook them. The king and his men got safely to dry land, but the waters swept away his wagons and horses. All his jewels and money were lost.

13. That night the king went to an abbey not far away, and ate and drank far more than was good for him. Next day he was in a burning fever, and soon after, to the great joy of his people, he died.

Hubert and Arthur.

(From the picture by William F. Yeames, R.A. By permission of the Corporation of Manchester.)

THE FIRST PRINCE OF WALES.
(From the picture by P. R. Morris, A.R.A.)

18. HOW ENGLAND AND WALES BECAME ONE.

1. Look at this picture. Here you see a tall, strong king, with dark hair and bright eyes. In the hollow of his arm he holds a little baby. In his right hand is his sword, held hilt upwards so as to form a cross.

2. Behind the king is the baby's nurse, with a fur robe in her hand. A knight in armour stands behind her. At the end of his spear is a little flag with a red cross on it.

3. Now what does this picture mean? The king is Edward the First, the grandson of King John. He is so tall that his people call him Longshanks. He is so brave that they are all proud of him. He is just and true to his word, though sometimes he is harsh and cruel.

4. The red cross on the banner tells us that the king has been to the Crusades. When he was in the Holy Land a Turk stabbed him with a poisoned dagger. It is said that his queen sucked the poison from the wound, and thus saved her husband's life.

5. The picture shows you Edward in the castle of Carnarvon, in North Wales. The Welsh, you will remember, are descended from the ancient Britons. The English conquered the Britons of the east and middle of the country, but they could not conquer the Britons of the west. In the deep valleys, amidst

CARNARVON CASTLE AS IT IS TO-DAY. [Photo by Frith

their steep mountains, they kept themselves free for seven hundred years.

6. Then Edward brought men from the high mountains of Spain to wage war against the Welsh. These men knew how to fight on the hills and in the passes.

7. They led the way, and a huge English army followed behind. Many fierce battles were fought. The Welsh king was killed, and the Welsh were beaten.

8. Then Edward built strong castles through the country, and filled them with soldiers. As soon as the land was quiet, he called the Welsh princes and chiefs together. They met at Carnarvon Castle. Shortly before their meeting Edward's first son was born in the castle.

9. Edward told the chiefs he would give them a prince of their own. They cried out that they would only have a prince born in Wales. They would not have a prince who spoke English.

10. Then Edward sent for his little baby and showed him to the chiefs. "Here," he said, "is your prince. He was born in Wales, and he cannot speak a word of English."

11. The chiefs were surprised, and they did not know what to say. At last they agreed to have the child for their prince, if the king would promise two things. `First, the prince must have a Welsh

nurse, and, secondly, he must be taught to speak Welsh. The king gladly agreed. In the picture you see him promising to keep his word.

12. Thus the eldest son of Edward the First became Prince of Wales. From that day to this the eldest living son of the king or queen of England has been made Prince of Wales. The Welsh people are very proud of their prince, and rejoice to sing, "God bless the Prince of Wales!"

19. THE STORY OF WALLACE.

1. After Edward had won Wales, he turned to a harder task. He tried to conquer Scotland.

2. At that time thirteen men claimed the throne of Scotland. Edward said that he was overlord of Scotland, and that he would choose one of these men to be Scotland's king. The Scots agreed, and Edward chose John Baliol.

3. Baliol was a weak man, and Edward soon began to act as though *he* and not Baliol was the king of Scotland. This made the Scots very angry. They forced their king to raise an army and send it into England.

4. Then Edward, with a great host, marched north to punish the Scots. He beat them in battle, and made them yield.

5. He thought that he had tamed Scotland, just as he had tamed Wales; but he was mistaken. In a year the people of South Scotland were up in arms once more. Their leader was a young squire named William Wallace. He was a very brave man, and he loved his country better than life itself.

6. One day Wallace was walking in the streets of his town. An English soldier pointed to the sword which Wallace wore by his side, and said, "What is this Scottish dog doing with such a sword?" Wallace was very angry. He drew his sword and slew the man.

7. Then other English soldiers ran to the spot and tried to seize Wallace. He was very big and strong, and he fought his way to the door of his house. Just as his foes were upon him, his wife opened the door. Wallace sprang into the house, and the door was barred.

8. While the English soldiers were battering down the door, Wallace got away by the back, and hid in a cave on the hills.

9. Soon the soldiers broke into the house, and found that Wallace had escaped. So angry were they that they put his wife to death.

10. Wallace loved his wife dearly, and when he heard the news of her death he was filled with rage and grief. He gathered his friends about him, and fell upon the English again and again.

11. At last fifty thousand English marched against

SCENE OF THE BATTLE OF STIRLING.

him. He awaited their coming on the north bank of the Forth, near Stirling. The river lay between him and his foes. The English tried to cross the river by a long narrow bridge.

12. When part of the enemy had crossed, the Scottish spearmen blocked the way. There was a fierce fight on the crowded bridge. Meanwhile Wallace fell on the English who had already crossed. Five thousand of them were slain, and many others driven into the river and drowned.

13. The English fled, and Wallace was master of Scotland. Edward now saw that he must go himself to fight the Scots or lose Scotland.

14. With a great army he marched north. A battle was fought at Falkirk, and Wallace was beaten.

15. He got away to the hills, and lived there with a few men for several years. I am sorry to say that those who ought to have been his friends were false to him. One of them gave him up to the English.

16. Now look at the picture on page 75. It shows you a court of law in London. The judge is Edward. Wallace is being tried for his life.

17. You see what a big, powerful man he is. He does not fear the English king. There is only hatred in his fierce dark eyes. He is being called a traitor to King Edward. "I cannot be a traitor to Edward," he says, "for I never said that I would obey him."

18. Wallace was found guilty, and was cruelly put to death. His head was afterwards stuck on a spike, and set up on London Bridge.

19. Edward was a brave man, but he showed no mercy to his foes. William the First could forgive Hereward, but Edward the First could not forgive Wallace. Mercy is the brightest jewel in the crown of a king.

20. THE BLACK PRINCE.

1. Here you see three ostrich feathers bound together by a crown. Attached to the crown is the motto, which consists of these two words, "Ich Dien." They mean, "I serve."

PRINCE OF WALES'S BADGE.

2. This is the badge of the Prince of Wales, and it has been worn by Princes of Wales for five hundred years. Let me tell you the story of the prince who won these feathers as his crest.

3. He was a lad of sixteen years of age at the time. His father was Edward the Third, the grandson of Edward the First, of whom you read in the last lesson.

4. In the second year of Edward the Third's reign the king of France died, and then the English king said that he ought to be king of France as well as

The Trial of Wallace.

(From the picture by Daniel Maclise, R.A., in the Guildhall Art Gallery. By permission of the Corporation of London.)

king of England. The French nobles, however, chose another king named Philip.

5. Eleven years later Edward crossed over to France at the head of a large English army. He meant to win the French crown for himself.

6. He took his son, who was also named Edward, with him. When they landed in France his father made him a knight. The boy always wore black armour, and because of this he was called the Black Prince.

7. Though he had been made a knight, the Black Prince had not yet shown that he was worthy of the honour. In those days no knight might wear a pair of gilt spurs until he had done some brave deed. The Black Prince was very eager to "win his spurs."

8. Edward and his army overran Normandy. They pushed far inland, and then Edward heard that the king of France was leading one hundred thousand men against him.

9. He turned northwards, and marched towards the friendly country of Flanders. A river called the Somme lay in his path. The English army waded across the river, and then Edward halted his weary men on a hill near the village of Crécy.

10. Edward wished to let the Black Prince "win his spurs" in the coming fight, so he gave him the command of the first division of the army. How proud the Black Prince was! He meant to prove himself the bravest knight on the field.

21. HOW THE BLACK PRINCE WON HIS SPURS.

1. On came the French, and then the English bowmen took one step forward and began to shoot. The arrows flew so thick that they are said to have looked "like a snowstorm."

2. The archers on the French side used the cross-bow. Our men used the long-bow. They could shoot six times as quickly as the French archers.

3. Nothing could stand against the deadly rain of the English arrows. The ground was soon covered with dead and dying men. Then the king of France ordered his knights to charge.

4. They did so, and a fresh storm of English arrows flew at them. Men and horses went down in heaps, yet some of the French knights reached the English line.

5. Here they fell fiercely upon the division which was led by young Edward. The fight was so hot that some of the English knights thought that the Black Prince and his men would be beaten.

6. A knight rode off to the king, and asked him to send help to the prince. "Is my son dead or hurt or felled to the ground?" asked Edward. "No, sire," replied the knight, "but he is hard pressed, and has great need of help."

7. "Go back to the fight," said the king. "I

The Black Prince being made a Knight of the Garter.
(From the picture by C. W. Cope, R.A., in Westminster Palace.)

will send no help as long as my son is alive. Let the boy win his spurs, and gain the glory of the day."

8. The knight rode back to the fight, and told the prince's men what the king had said. His words gave them fresh courage. They fought on, and soon the French began to give way.

9. Night came on and put an end to the battle. Under cover of the darkness the French marched away, leaving four thousand knights and men-at-arms dead on the field. The Black Prince had indeed "won his spurs," and England had won a great victory.

10. An old story tells us that as Edward and his son walked over the battle-field, they came to a spot where an old and blind king lay dead.

11. Though blind, this brave old king had rushed into the fight to strike a good blow against the English. He had soon been cut down.

12. By his side was his banner, trampled by horses' hoofs and stained with blood. On it were painted three ostrich feathers, with the words "Ich Dien," which mean "I serve." The king picked up the banner and gave it to his son. "Let this be your badge," said he, "and let 'I serve' be your motto."

13. The Black Prince took the flag, and the three feathers with the motto "Ich Dien" became

TOMB OF THE BLACK PRINCE, CANTERBURY CATHEDRAL [Photo by Thurlow

his crest. Our Prince of Wales has the same crest to-day.

14. When a Prince of Wales looks at the motto on his crest, he remembers that he must serve God, serve his king, serve his country, and serve those who are weak or downtrodden and need his help.

22. PRINCE HAL AND THE JUDGE.

1. The Black Prince never became king of England. He died before his father.

2. When Edward the Third died, the son of the Black Prince became king. He was a weak man, and he followed the advice of bad friends. The crown was taken away from him and given to Henry, another grandson of Edward the Third.

3. This Henry is known in history as Henry the Fourth. When he came to the throne, his son, Prince Hal, was a tall, brave youth. He was a fine soldier, and in later years he became a famous king, and made himself master of France.

4. Now look at the picture on page 82. It shows you a court of law. In the judgment-seat is one of the king's judges. In the front of the picture is Prince Hal, looking very much ashamed of himself. Near him we see a prisoner with his hands tied behind him. What does the picture mean?

PRINCE HAL AND THE JUDGE.

(From the picture by C. W. Cope, R.A., in the House of Lords.)

5. An old story tells us that when Hal was a young man he was very wild. He had many rough friends, with whom he spent much of his time. At night he and his friends used to roam about, playing all sorts of pranks on quiet people.

6. One night, in the midst of a quarrel, the soldiers seized one of Hal's friends and took him before a judge. They did not seize Hal, because they knew that he was the king's son.

7. While the judge was trying the prisoner, Hal walked into the court, and told the judge to set the man free. The judge said that he would not do so, and told the prince that he ought to be ashamed of having such a man for his friend.

8. Now Hal was very proud, and he thought that no one had a right to speak to the king's son in that way. So angry was he that he walked up to the judge, and lifted his hand to strike him.

9. At once the judge told the soldiers to seize the prince. Then he said: "Sir, remember yourself. I stand here in the place of the king, your father, to make all men keep his laws.

10. "You have broken the king's law, and you have raised your hand to the king's judge. Your crime is great, and I order you to be sent to prison."

11. Hal's anger had now passed away. He saw that he had done wrong. He blushed with shame, and let the soldiers lead him away.

12. When the king heard of it, he said, "I am a happy man to have a judge who does not fear to punish even the king's son. I am happy, too, in having a son wise enough to obey the law."

13. When his father died, Hal became King Henry the Fifth. All the great men in the land came before him to wish him a happy reign. Amongst them was the judge who had sent him to prison.

14. The judge knew that he had done right, but he thought that Hal might perhaps bear him ill-will, and take his office from him. He soon found that he was mistaken; for Hal had now given up his wild ways, and meant to be a true and good king.

15. The king called the judge to him, and gave him his hand. "Still be my judge," said he. "Still do justice in the same bold, fearless way in which you did it to me. No man is so worthy to be judge as you. Give me your help. I will take your advice, and I will look up to you as a father."

16. Some people tell us that this story is not true, but I think you will be glad to hear it all the same. Some day I hope you will read the story as it is told in Shakespeare's play, *Henry IV.*

HENRY V. AND CATHERINE OF FRANCE.

(From the picture by W. F. Yeames, R.A.)

This picture shows you King Henry begging the Princess Catherine to be his wife. He knows very little French, and she knows very little English. Nevertheless Henry is able to persuade Catherine to marry him. The wedding took place in the year 1420, when Henry was thirty-three years of age.

23. "TURN AGAIN, WHITTINGTON, LORD MAYOR OF LONDON."

1. I dare say most of you have heard the story of Dick Whittington and his cat. You will remember that he was a poor boy, who left his home in the quiet country and set out for London.

2. Like many another country lad, he thought that the streets of London were paved with gold. He fancied that he had only to come to the great and rich city to make his fortune.

3. When Dick reached London, he found that he was poorer than ever. He had no friends, and he had to work very hard to get food. At last, weary and sad, he turned his back on the great city and trudged off towards home.

4. As he sat by the roadside, he heard the faint chime of church bells in the distance. "Ding-dong, ding-dong," they said; and as he listened, they seemed to be singing—

"Turn again, Whittington,
Lord Mayor of London."

5. "I will turn again," said Dick. He picked up his little bundle, and set his face once more towards London. He would not give in; he would make his fortune, and perhaps some day he might be Lord Mayor. So Dick went back to his master.

6. The old story tells us that Dick's master traded with distant lands, and that he used to let his servants send things in his ships for sale.

7. Dick had nothing to send but his cat. So he parted with the faithful animal, and the captain of the ship sold it for a large sum of money to a king whose palace was swarming with mice.

8. With the money Dick became a merchant. Then the saying of the bells came true. He grew very rich, and was three times Lord Mayor of London. This is the old story. It may not be all true, but some of it must be true.

9. Now look at the picture on page 88. It is a scene in front of Whittington's house in London You see that it is winter. The snow lies deep on the ground, and the wind is bitter.

10. Many of the poor people are cold and hungry. Some of them have come to the rich merchant's house to beg for food and clothing.

11. You see Whittington standing on the steps. By his side is his wife, and in front of him is his little girl.

12. Whittington has not forgotten that he was once poor and hungry too. So he orders his servants to make a fire and to bring out loaves of bread and warm clothing for the poor people.

13. You see his wife giving money to a poor widow, while his daughter helps a ragged little

Whittington and the Poor.

(From the fresco by Henrietta Rae (Mrs. Normand), in the Royal Exchange, London. By permission of Messrs. Hildesheimer and Co.)

orphan. Whittington looks on, and sees that none of the poor folks go empty away.

14. Whittington lived in the reign of Henry the Fifth, our old friend Prince Hal. So good and kind was he that the king made him a knight. Thus, the poor country boy, not only became rich and Lord Mayor of London, but Sir Richard Whittington.

24. PLUCKING THE ROSES.

1. When Henry the Fifth died, he left a baby son to follow him on the throne. This child became King Henry the Sixth. He grew up to be a man of weak mind and will.

2. His reign was a very troubled one. All that Henry the Fifth had won in France was lost before Henry the Sixth was thirty years of age.

3. There were many troubles at home too. The worst of them was a long and cruel war, in which the English people took sides and fought against each other.

4. Now, though Henry was king, another man claimed the throne. His name was Richard, Duke of York, and he really had a better right to be king than Henry. A quarrel broke out between these two men, and this led to war.

5. Now look at the picture on the next page. It

PLUCKING THE ROSES.

is a scene in the Temple Gardens, by the side of the river Thames, in London. Two noblemen stand face to face. The one on the right is the Duke of Somerset, a great friend of King Henry's. The one on the left is Richard, Duke of York.

6. You can see from their faces that they are angry. A quarrel is going on. In the midst of the quarrel, Somerset plucks a red rose from a bush. He turns to his friends and says, "Let him who sides with me pluck a red rose and wear it in his cap."

7. Then the Duke of York tears a white rose from another bush. "This shall be my badge," he cries. "Let him who is my friend pluck a white rose and wear it."

8. Soon afterwards war broke out between the friends of the king and the friends of the Duke of York. This war is known as the War of the Roses. Those who fought for the king wore a red rose; those who fought for the Duke of York wore a white rose.

9. The war lasted, off and on, for nearly thirty years. The people did not take much part in it, because it was really a quarrel between two noble families, and they did not much care which side won. The nobles and their servants, however, fought fiercely, and many of them were slain.

10. I cannot tell you now of the many battles which were fought, and the many cruel deeds that

were done on both sides. War is always terrible, but never so terrible as when fellow-countrymen fight against each other.

11. Sometimes the Red Rose party won, but more often the White Rose party won. After a fierce battle King Henry's little son fell into the hands of his foes, and was cruelly slain.

12. After this wicked deed, two White Rose kings ruled over the country. They were followed by that King Richard who caused his nephews to be killed in the Tower. I told you about this cruel deed in the first book.

13. At last, in the year 1485, a great battle, known as the Battle of Bosworth Field, was fought between Henry Tudor, the leader of the Red Rose party, and King Richard.

14. The White Roses were beaten, and Richard's nobles begged him to fly. "I will die a king," he said, and rushed into the thick of the fight. He cut his way to Henry's banner, and, fighting like a madman, was slain.

15. Richard's crown fell from his head and rolled under a hawthorn bush. A nobleman found it, and setting it on Henry's head, cried, "Long live the King!" Soon after Henry married Elizabeth, the head of the White Rose party. In this way, after long years of bloodshed and misery, the old quarrel was ended, and peace came again to the land.

25. ONE OF THE QUEEN'S KNIGHTS.

1. Look at the picture on page 94. You see two young boys sitting on a sea-wall in the warm light of a summer afternoon. They are listening eagerly to a foreign sailor, who is telling them the most interesting story which they have ever heard.

2. He is pointing to the west. In that direction, far across the ocean, lie the seas and islands which he calls the Spanish Main. What wonderful stories he tells about this Spanish Main! To the boys it seems to be Fairyland.

3. He tells them of the strange new plants, animals, birds, and butterflies which he has seen. He tells them of the Indians and their vast stores of gold, silver, and pearl. He tells them of his perils by land and sea. Best of all, he tells them of his fights with the hated Spaniards.

4. Look at the boy who sits clasping his knees. He drinks in every word that the sailor says. He is full of fancies, and he seems to see before him all the wonderful scenes of which the sailor is speaking.

5. How he longs to sail across the ocean and discover new lands! How he longs to fight the Spaniards! For days to come he will dream about Indians and gold, palm-trees and Spaniards.

6. Who is this boy? His name is Walter Raleigh. He is the son of a Devonshire gentleman. When

THE BOYHOOD OF SIR WALTER RALEIGH.

he grows up he will be one of the gayest, handsomest, and cleverest men in England. He will do all the things of which he dreamed when he sat on the sea-wall listening to the sailor.

7. He will sail to distant countries, he will fight the Spaniards, and he will prove himself to be one of the best soldiers of his time. He will also write verses and books, and he will be a favourite of Queen Elizabeth.

8. Now let me tell you about Raleigh's later life. He was the first to bring potatoes to this country from America. He planted them on his lands in Ireland, where they grew so well that they became the chief food of the Irish. He also brought tobacco from America, and was the first man in England to smoke it.

9. At length Elizabeth died, and then bad times were in store for Raleigh. He was so handsome and clever and brave that many men hated him.

10. Some of them told James, the new king, that Raleigh had been plotting against him. This was false; but the king believed the men, and Raleigh was tried. He was found guilty, and was to be put to death.

11. At the last moment, however, the king said that he was not to be beheaded, but kept in prison for life. His prison was the Tower of London, and here many persons came to see him.

12. One of the young princes was very fond of Raleigh. He said, "No man but my father would

keep such a bird in a cage." For thirteen long weary years Raleigh was caged in the Tower. How he longed to be free!

13. One day he sent a friend to the king with a message. "Tell the king," said he, "that I know of a rich gold mine in America. If he will set me free, I will go and find it for him. Then I will bring him shiploads of gold." James was very fond of money, and so he agreed to the bargain.

14. Raleigh sailed to America, but, alas, he never found the mine. When he came home James said that he should die on the old charge. He went to the scaffold like the brave gentleman he was, and died like a true hero.

15. As he was putting his head on the block, a friend told him that he ought to turn his head to the east, so as to look towards the Holy Land. "What does it matter," said he, "how the head lies, if the heart be right?" These were his last words.

26. THE STORY OF MARY QUEEN OF SCOTS.—I.

1. In the last lesson you read how King James sent a noble gentleman to the block. Now I must tell you the sad story of this king's mother, Mary Queen of Scots.

2. Mary's father died when she was only seven days old, so that the poor little mite was a queen before she had learned to speak.

3. It was a bad thing for Scotland to have so young a queen. The nobles were very lawless, and they needed a strong, wise man to keep them in order.

4. The English king wished to marry his son to the little queen, but the Scots would not agree to this. They sent her to France. In that sunny land she spent the happiest years of her life. She was a gay, merry child, and became more like a French girl than a Scottish girl.

5. She grew up to be very lovely and graceful. When she was sixteen years of age she was married to the son of the king of France.

6. When the old king of France died, her husband became king in his place. So Mary was queen of France as well as queen of Scotland.

7. After little more than a year of great happiness, Mary's husband died. Then all was changed. A new king came to the throne, and Mary was no longer queen of France. She then set sail for her kingdom of Scotland.

8. Look at the picture on page 98. Mary is on board ship, sailing from France to her home in Scotland. She will not go to her cabin, but lies upon a couch on deck, so that she may gaze upon the shore of her beloved France as long as it is in sight.

AT SEA. "FAREWELL, FRANCE!"
(From the picture by Robert Herdman, R.S.A.)

9. Oh, how sorrowful she is at leaving it. "Farewell, France! farewell, France!" she cries; "I shall never see thee more."

10. Mary was very unhappy in her northern home. She did not understand her people, and her people did not understand her. After she had been a few years in Scotland she married her cousin Darnley, a weak and foolish young man.

11. Now Mary had a servant who sang and played to her. Her husband hated this servant, and with the help of a band of nobles murdered him before her eyes.

12. Mary was very angry. She told her husband that she would be his wife no longer, and that she would make him as wretched as she was.

13. Soon after the murder, Mary made friends with a rough, proud noble named Bothwell. One night the house in which her husband was lying sick was blown up with gunpowder.

14. Darnley was killed, and men said that Bothwell had murdered him. Three months after her husband's death, Mary married Bothwell.

15. Now this made the Scots very angry with her. The nobles took up arms against her and Bothwell. Mary had to do their bidding. They imprisoned her in a castle on an island in a lake, and there made her give up her crown to her little boy James.

ESCAPE OF MARY QUEEN OF SCOTS FROM LOCH LEVEN CASTLE.
(*From the picture by Thomas Danby, R.A., in Bethnal Green Museum.*)

27. THE STORY OF MARY QUEEN OF SCOTS.—II.

1. Look at this picture. It is a night scene on Loch Leven, a large lake in Scotland. In the background you see a castle standing on an island. Mary was kept a prisoner on this island for nearly a year. How dull she found it! How often she wished to escape!

2. At last a chance came. In the old fable the mouse helped the lion to get free from the net in which it was caught. In the case of Queen Mary a young page-boy helped her to escape.

3. He was only fifteen years of age, but he was very brave. He was ready to face death for the mistress he loved so much.

4. Every evening the key of the castle gate was laid on the table beside the governor as he sat at supper. One evening the page was waiting at table when the key was brought in. He quickly dropped a napkin over it, and then took up the napkin and the key with it.

5. Then he went to the queen and told her the news. She made ready to leave the castle, and that night, when all was still, the page opened the castle gate.

6. Out slipped the queen and her maid. Then the page locked the gate behind them and threw

away the key, so that they might not be followed.

7. A boat was ready, manned by the queen's faithful friends. She stepped into it, and in the picture you see her being rowed to the shore. When she reached the land she found other friends waiting for her. She mounted a horse and rode off at full speed.

8. Then the queen's friends flocked to her standard and made ready to fight. Her foes, too, gathered their soldiers together. The two armies met near Glasgow. Mary's army was beaten, and she had to fly for her life.

9. After a long, weary ride she reached the Solway Firth, and crossed over to England in a boat.

10. When she landed in England she sent a message to her cousin, Queen Elizabeth, asking for help. Elizabeth, however, would neither help her nor see her. She said, "Mary shall not come to my court until she proves that she did not murder her husband."

11. Though Elizabeth would not help her cousin, she would not let her go back to France or to Scotland. She moved her about from castle to castle, and always kept a guard over her. For eighteen long, weary years Mary was a prisoner.

12. Now Mary had many friends, and some of them wished her to be queen of England. They plotted to kill Queen Elizabeth, and to put Mary

on the throne in her place. Mary knew of these plots, and perhaps took part in them.

13. Queen Elizabeth knew that while Mary lived she was not safe on her throne. So Mary was charged with plotting against the life of the queen of England. Her judges found her guilty.

14. One winter morning, a few months later, she was led forth to die. She was calm, for she had suffered so much that death was not terrible to her. She bade farewell to her friends, and then the axe fell. The sad life of the beautiful Queen of Scots was at an end.

28. OLIVER CROMWELL.—I.

1. In the first book I told you something about that strong, stern man, Oliver Cromwell. He was born eleven years after the defeat of the great Spanish fleet, of which we read in Book I.

2. When Cromwell was a baby, a strange thing happened to him. There was a pet monkey in the house, and one day it found little Oliver asleep in the cradle.

3. In a moment the monkey caught up the sleeping child and ran off with it. At once the animal scrambled up to the roof of the house with the child in its arms.

4. What a stir there was! Suppose the monkey should drop the child! The poor mother was frantic when she thought of what might happen. Carpets and feather beds were laid round the house, so that the child might fall on something soft.

5. However, the monkey showed no signs of letting little Oliver fall. It soon grew tired of nursing the baby. Then it came down from the house-top, and laid the child gently on the floor. Little Oliver was none the worse for his strange adventure.

6. When Cromwell was twenty-nine years of age, he became member of Parliament for Huntingdon. He was a big, rough-looking man, with a plain face and a wart on his nose. He was careless in his dress, and he was not a good speaker.

7. At the time when he took his place in the House of Commons, a great quarrel was going on between the king and the leaders of the people. The king was Charles the First, grandson of Mary Queen of Scots. He was a very handsome man, and was kind and loving and gentle to all around him.

8. He thought, however, that he was above the law, and that he could make and unmake laws just as he pleased. He said that the king could do no wrong.

9. Now the British people have always said that no king has a right to tax them. They will pay no tax unless Parliament agrees to it. Charles,

Cromwell refusing the Crown.

(From the picture by J. Schaa, in the Walker Art Gallery, Liverpool. By permission of the Corporation of Liverpool.)

however, forced people to lend him money, and made them pay whatever taxes he pleased.

10. All this was very hateful to many people in England. They said that if they let their king do as he pleased, there would soon be no free man in the land.

11. At last the leaders of the people made up their minds that the king must obey the law. So they drew up a list of all their old rights. "Promise to keep these laws faithfully," they said to the king, "and we will give you money. If not, you shall have nothing."

12. Charles promised to keep the laws, and then they gave him the money. Soon, however, the king began to break his word. The members of Parliament were so angry with him that Charles broke up their meetings. At last he sent the members home, and did without a Parliament altogether.

29. OLIVER CROMWELL.—II.

1. Then men began to speak bitter words against the king, and against those who were giving him bad advice. Amongst those who stood up against Charles was Oliver Cromwell.

2. At last the quarrel grew so bitter that nothing could settle it but war. Men had now to

choose sides. Most of the nobles and the country people sided with the king. The townsfolk sided with the Parliament.

3. At first the king's troops won battle after battle. Cromwell saw that this was because the king had many fine horse-soldiers, while the Parliament had very few.

4. He therefore began to train horse-soldiers. He got togetner a band of God-fearing men from the east of England. He mounted them on good horses, and taught them how to fight. They were such stout-hearted men that they were called Ironsides.

5. Soon Cromwell's Ironsides had a chance of showing what stuff they were made of. They beat the king's horse-soldiers in several battles. Then a new army of men like the Ironsides was raised. The king's soldiers could not stand against them.

6. Charles had to fly from the battlefield. He was hunted from place to place. At last he gave himself up to the Scots, who were soon tired of him, and gave him up to the Parliament.

7. Parliament did not know what to do with the king. Some of the members were ready to forget and forgive. The army, however, was now very powerful, and its leaders said that Charles should die.

8. He was tried for making war on his people, and was found guilty. Four days later he was beheaded before the windows of his palace in London.

CROMWELL'S STATUE AT ST. IVES. [Photo by Frith.

9. Cromwell was now the chief man in the army, and he was soon to be the real ruler of England. First, however, he had to fight many battles.

10. Both the Scots and the Irish wished to have Charles's son as king, and were ready to fight for him. Cromwell, however, overcame both Ireland and Scotland.

11. Now look at the picture on page 105. It shows you Cromwell sitting in the palace of the late king. He is thinking deeply, for he must now make an important choice.

12. In the next room you see a number of members of Parliament. Their leader carries a crown on a cushion. They are about to ask Cromwell to be king of England.

13. He is already king in everything but name, but he knows that many men will turn against him if he becomes King Cromwell. He therefore refuses the crown, and remains "Lord Protector" to the end.

14. Cromwell was disliked by most of the people, and bitterly hated by many of them, but he was a good ruler. He did many unlawful things, but he made our country strong and great, and won for us rich lands beyond the sea.

15. He died when he was sixty years of age, and was buried in Westminster Abbey. His bones did not long remain there. The English people soon

asked Charles's son to be their king. He gladly agreed, and the people were very glad to have him back again. One of his first acts was to have the bones of Cromwell dug up and hung upon a gibbet.

30. BONNIE PRINCE CHARLIE.

(1745–1746.)

1. The new king, Charles the Second, was a bad king, but he took care not to make his people angry. He said that he did not want to go on his travels again. After his death his brother James came to the throne.

2. James did so many unlawful things that even his best friends turned against him. Some of them went over to Holland, where the king's daughter, Mary, was living with her Dutch husband, William, Prince of Orange. They asked William and Mary to come over and rule England.

3. William came, and as soon as he landed the people flocked to him. Then, to the great joy of everybody, James ran away to France, and William and Mary became king and queen of England.

4. James tried hard to win back his throne, but he failed. His son tried too, but he did not succeed. Then his grandson, Prince Charles Edward, made an attempt,

5. Prince Charles was a gay, light-hearted young man, with a handsome face and charming manners. He bought a little ship, put a number of guns on board, and sailed for the west coast of Scotland.

6. He knew that the Highlanders were very faithful to his cause, and he hoped that they would help him to win back the crown.

7. He landed in the Highlands with only seven friends. The Highlanders did not know that he was coming, and at first they did not join him. However, he soon won them over, and then they loved him and fought for him.

8. Day after day more and more Highlanders flocked to him, and soon he was at the head of a large army. The king's soldiers fled before him, and Prince Charlie marched into Edinburgh, where he lived like a king for forty days.

9. Then he marched his Highlanders into England, and pushed south as far as Derby. He hoped that Englishmen would join him. They did nothing of the sort, and Charles was forced to march back to Scotland.

10. The king's soldiers followed hard on his heels. Charles's men were weary and hungry, and there were many stragglers from the ranks. Some of these were caught by the king's soldiers and put to death.

11. Charles marched north to the Highlands, and a terrible battle took place near Inverness. The brave

BONNIE PRINCE CHARLIE.

(From the painting by John Pettie, R.A.)

Highlanders were beaten, and Prince Charlie had to fly for his life.

12. He wandered from place to place, while the king's soldiers hunted for him high and low. The Highlanders were very poor, but though rich rewards were offered to those who would betray him, no one ever pointed out his hiding-place.

13. Now look at the first picture in this book. It shows you a Highland cottage. Prince Charlie has taken shelter in it. The whole country is being searched by the king's soldiers. The prince is in great danger. How is he to escape?

14. A Highland gentleman brings to the cottage a brave and gentle young lady named Flora Macdonald. She is ready to help the prince to escape.

15. Flora is made known to the prince. She has Betty, her Irish maid, with her. She bids the prince put on Betty's dress. When this is done, she leads him away to find a ship that will carry him safely to France.

16. The prince makes a very poor maid. His skirts give him a good deal of trouble. Sometimes he tucks them up above his knees as he crosses a stream; sometimes he forgets them, and lets them trail in the water. Several times he is nearly discovered.

17. At last he is brought to a safe place. He thanks his faithful guide, and sorrowfully bids her farewell.

A short time after, he reaches the sea-coast, where a ship is waiting for him. He goes on board, and his ship sets sail for France. He, too, has failed to win back the throne which his grandfather lost.

18. The Highlanders never forgot him, and their hearts were always warm towards him. Many beautiful songs have been written about him. Here is a verse from one of them called "Bonnie Prince Charlie":—

"Over the water, and over the sea,
And over the water to Charlie;
Come weal, come woe, we'll gather and go,
And live or die with Charlie."

31. THE STORY OF AN IDLE SCHOOL-BOY.

1. Look at a map of the world. Turn to the north-west of Europe and find the British Isles, in which you live. Now look at the land mass of Asia. In the south of it you will see the great land of India.

2. You can see from the map that India is many times greater than our own little islands. One-fifth of all the people on the earth live in India. For every man, woman, and child in these islands, India has seven.

3. Now this country of India belongs to us, and

our King is its ruler. Perhaps you are surprised that we should rule such a vast, rich, and crowded land. I am sure you would like to know how it was won for us.

4. About three hundred years ago some merchants of London sent out men to trade with the people of India. The French also had a company which traded in the same way.

5. A hundred years went by, and all that time these two companies made great profits. Then wars broke out in India, and the Indian princes fought with each other. The French saw how weak these princes were, and they thought that they had a chance of becoming masters of India.

6. They armed and drilled native soldiers, and then began to take part in the quarrels of the princes. They first helped this side, then that side, and soon became powerful.

7. The British saw what the French were doing, and they also began to arm and drill native soldiers. When the French took one side in a quarrel, the British took the other.

8. Now about this time there was an idle, careless school-boy named Robert Clive. He lived in Shropshire. He was always in mischief of one sort or another.

9. As he grew older, he grew more and more idle and careless. At last his friends got him a

post as a clerk in India. He had given them so much trouble at home that they were glad to see him go abroad. The voyage to India was a very long one, and Clive was wretched all the time.

10. He was so sad and lonely in India that he tried to shoot himself. His pistol would not go off, so he threw it aside and said, "I am meant to do something; I will live." He was quite right; he was meant to win India for us.

11. Clive grew tired of being a clerk, and joined the army. He had now found his proper work in life. Soon he proved himself a fine soldier, and was made captain.

12. With a few hundred natives he took the fort of a prince who was on the side of the French. Clive got into the fort easily enough, but he could not get out again, for ten thousand of his foes were all round him.

13. For eleven long weeks he was shut up in the fort. Food ran short, and soon all of it was eaten except a little rice. Clive's men made him eat the rice, while they kept themselves alive on the water in which it had been boiled. Clive would not give in, so at last his foes marched away.

14. In the next three years Clive fought many battles. He won for us the south-east of India. The idle, careless school-boy had become a famous man.

32. THE BLACK HOLE OF CALCUTTA.

(1756.)

1. Clive now came to England for a holiday. Everywhere he was greeted as a hero.

2. Two years later he again set sail for India. Soon after he landed terrible news was brought to him. The chief native prince in the north of India had taken the British fort at Calcutta.

3. There were one hundred and forty-five British men and one British woman in the fort when it was taken. The prince thrust them all into a room less than twenty feet square, and locked them up for the night.

4. There were only two little windows in the room. These were barred with iron, and very little fresh air could get in through them.

5. It was summer. You can have no idea how hot it is in India during the summer. Think of the hottest day that you ever remember. A summer day in India is far, far hotter than that.

6. In our country the air grows cooler when the sun sets. Often in India it seems to grow hotter and more stifling during the night. Sometimes there is not a breath of wind.

7. Now you can understand the sufferings of these poor prisoners during that awful summer night. Many of them were wounded; all were worn out

with hard work. They were packed so tightly in the room that they could scarcely move.

8. How they gasped for breath! They tried to force open the door and throw themselves on the swords of the soldiers who guarded them, but in vain.

9. They offered the soldiers all the gold that they had, if they would only take some of them to another room. They were told that nothing could be done without an order from the prince. He was asleep, and no one dared to wake him.

10. Some of the poor prisoners went mad, and trod down their friends as they fought their way to the little windows. Others begged the guards to fire on them, and so put them out of their pain.

11. At last the morning came, and the prison door was thrown open. Out of one hundred and forty-six persons who went into that house of death, only twenty-three came out alive.

12. One by one they staggered out from their foul prison. They were so pale and weak that they seemed like the ghosts of themselves.

13. When the people in England heard the news, they were very angry. Clive was chosen to punish the wicked prince, and without delay he led an army against him.

14. He had only one thousand British and two

thousand native troops, but with these he beat sixty thousand of the enemy. The wicked prince ran away, but was caught and put to death by a fellow-prince.

15. This battle won for us a large part of India. Clive afterwards overcame the French, and soon the British were masters of the whole of India.

33. HOW CANADA WAS WON.

1. Look at a map of the world. Place your finger on the British Isles. For more than three thousand miles the broad Atlantic Ocean stretches away to the west. Move your finger across it to the great continent of North America.

2. In the last lesson you learned that the British and the French fought with each other in India for the mastery of that land. They also fought with each other for North America.

3. Let me tell you how we became masters of most of North America. We lost a large part of it some years later, but that is another story.

4. The British had settled along the east coast, and had formed a New England; the French had settled in Canada, and had formed a New France. Before long the British and the French settlers came to blows. A great war broke out, and a

DEATH OF WOLFE.

(*From the picture by Benjamin West, P. R.*)

British army and a number of battleships were sent to conquer New France.

5. The British general was a young man named James Wolfe. He was a soldier born and bred. His father had been an officer, and he himself had carried the colours of his regiment when he was a boy of fifteen. He loved his work, and read every book on war that came within his reach.

6. He was only thirty-three years old when he was chosen to lead the British army in America. Many people thought that he would not make a good general. One of them told King George that Wolfe was mad. "Mad, is he?" said the old king. "Then I hope he will bite some of my other generals."

7. The chief place in New France at that time was the town of Quebec. It stands at the foot and on the steep slopes of a great rock which juts out into a broad river. On the top of the rock is a fort.

8. In those days Quebec was a very strong place, and it was thought that no army could take it. Wolfe tried very hard, but he failed time after time.

9. At last he thought of a very bold plan. Above the city there were tall cliffs which people said could not be climbed. But Wolfe found a narrow little track from the water's edge to the top. Up this path he meant to lead his men.

10. His ships carried the soldiers up the river above Quebec. Then one dark night he put them into boats.

Without a sound they floated down the river, and at last reached the spot. The men sprang ashore, and, slinging their muskets on their backs, pulled themselves up the steep path by the help of trees and shrubs.

11. They overpowered the guard at the top, and before morning the whole British army was gathered on the plains overlooking Quebec. The French general was taken by surprise. He gathered his men together, and pushed on to the fight.

12. The British waited for them, and did not fire a shot till their foes were close at hand. Then they fired, and the French fell by hundreds. In fifteen minutes all was over. The battle was lost and won.

13. Alas! the British had lost their young general. He was leading his soldiers in a charge when a bullet struck him down. He was carried from the field a dying man.

14. Now look at the picture on page 120. Notice the man who is pointing towards the battle. "See," he cries, "they run! they run!" Wolfe opens his eyes and asks, "Who run?" "The enemy, sir," replies the man. "Now God be praised," the general says; "I die happy." Then with a happy smile upon his face his life ebbs away.

15. The French lost their general too. But they lost far more than the life of this brave man; they lost New France. Wolfe had won Canada for his country. Well might he say, "I die happy."

34. THE TERROR OF EUROPE.

1. Look at the picture on the next page. It is a scene on the quarter-deck of a British warship in the year 1815. In the foreground you see a short, stout man, wearing a gray overcoat and a cocked hat. He is gazing at the coast of France, which is fading away in the distance. Behind him you see a group of officers watching him eagerly.

2. Who is this man? He is Napoleon, the great emperor of the French. How comes he to be on board a British ship? I will tell you. A month ago his army was beaten by the British and the Prussians at Waterloo.

3. He fled from the field of battle, and tried to escape from France. He could not do so, and in despair he gave himself up to the captain of this British warship. He is now on his way to England.

4. Now turn to the picture on page 126. You see a great bare crag springing out of the wide, blue sea. High up on the crag sits Napoleon, looking the very picture of sadness and loneliness. He is like an eagle that has been chained to a rock, and now sits brooding over the wild freedom of days gone by.

5. The British government has banished him to the little rocky island of St. Helena in the Atlantic Ocean. This will be his home until the day of his death. For six weary years he will be a prisoner on this island.

Napoleon on Board the "Bellerophon."

(From the picture by W. Q. Orchardson, R.A., in the National Gallery of British Art. By permission of the Berlin Photographic Co.)

6. Day after day he climbs to this high crag, and here he sits thinking—ever thinking. Of what is he thinking? He thinks of all that has taken place during his wonderful life. He compares what he once was with what he now is.

7. His thoughts fly back to his boyhood's days. Once more he is playing with his brothers and sisters in his old home on the island of Corsica. Now he is fifteen years of age, and is setting out for the army school in Paris. He lives his schooldays over again, and recalls the proud moment, a year later, when he first wore his uniform as an officer in the army.

8. Then he thinks of the busy years, during which he rose step by step, until he became the chief general of the French army. He fights his battles over again, and wins his victories once more. At last he is so powerful that the French people make him their emperor.

9. Now his mind is filled with visions of the glory and greatness that once were his. His pale cheek flushes as he sees himself once more master of nearly the whole of Europe. Once more the nations bow down to him, and he makes and unmakes kings. Once more he is the foremost man in all the world.

10. Ah, how great he was then, and how poor he is now! He is a wretched exile on a lonely islet, and his beloved France is more than four thousand miles away. He will never see his native land again.

NAPOLEON AT ST. HELENA.

(From the picture by Paul Delaroche, in the Royal Collection.)

11. At this thought he grows very angry with Britain. *She* has caused his downfall. He could conquer all the other nations, but he could not overcome her. She has always been his foe, and now she is his jailer. How bitterly he hates her!

12. He sees very clearly now when his downfall began. It was on that dark day in the year 1805 when Nelson destroyed his fleets at Trafalgar. He had meant to invade England, but he could not do so when the greater part of his ships were at the bottom of the sea or in the hands of the enemy. Ever since Trafalgar he has been the most unlucky of men.

13. Then he thinks of the terrible year 1812. He sees himself leading his great army into Russia, in order to make its ruler do his bidding. He thinks of the long march to the great city of Moscow, in which he means to spend the winter.

14. Alas! when his men march in they find that the Russians have left the place. Two days later the whole city is in flames. Moscow is a heap of ruins. There is no shelter for him there.

15. Once more he sees the Russian snow falling, and feels the bitter Russian cold. His men are frost-bitten and hungry. He must lead them back to France, or they will all perish. Ah! the horror of that homeward march. Of the 600,000 men who went with him to Russia only 100,000 return.

16. He hurries to Paris, only to find that nearly all

the nations of Europe have taken up arms against him. His army in Spain has been beaten by the British, and they are now marching towards Paris. He fights some fierce battles, but the nations are too strong for him. He must give up his throne.

17. He does so, and is sent to the tiny island of Elba, where he waits and watches for a chance to win back France. It comes at last. Once more he treads the soil of France. How eagerly his old soldiers flock to him! The people seem delighted at his return. Once more he is master of France and leader of a great army.

18. Then his thoughts turn to the fatal field of Waterloo. He sees the stubborn British red-coats hurl back his horsemen time after time. They will not give way. Then, as evening draws on, the Prussians appear. All is over. His glory and his greatness have vanished. He is a prisoner on a lonely island until death sets him free.

35. A USELESS WAR.

1. After the great victory at Waterloo, Britain was at peace for forty years. Never before in the whole of her history had so many years gone by without war. These years of peace were full of blessing for the British people.

2. England became the greatest manufacturing

country of the world, and her people were better off than they had ever been before. They had better homes and better food, and more money to spend.

3. Now look at the picture on page 130. It shows you a British soldier who has just returned from the war. He is very weary and very ill. Now that he has reached his home his strength seems to have left him.

4. He is wounded in the head, and he has lost an arm. His clothes and boots are worn out with hard work and long marching. On his breast he wears a medal for long and faithful service. The two stripes on the sleeve of his overcoat tell you that he is a corporal.

5. His wife and his poor old mother greet him with joy and pride and sorrow. They rejoice that he has come back to them alive; they are proud of his bravery; they are full of sorrow at his sufferings. Let us hope that rest and good food and their loving care will soon make him strong and well again.

6. Look at the helmet lying on the floor by the corporal's side. It is a prize of war which he has brought home to remind him of his hard-fought fights in a distant land. On the front of the helmet you see a black eagle with outspread wings.

7. The black eagle is the badge of Russia, just as the lion is the badge of Britain. From this we learn that our corporal has been fighting against Russia. Let me tell you something about this war.

THE RETURN FROM THE CRIMEA.

(*From the picture by Sir Noel Paton, R.S.A.*)

8. The Russians wished to be masters of Turkey, but this the British and French would not allow. They joined with the Turks, and war broke out between them and the Russians in 1854.

9. Most of the fighting took place in a part of South Russia known as the Crimea. Many battles were fought, and many brave deeds were done on both sides.

10. Winter is always a bitter time in Russia, and during the winter of 1854–55 our soldiers suffered terribly. Their tents and huts were swept by icy blasts, and the men were almost frozen to death. There was very little warm clothing, food ran short, and there was very little fuel with which to make fires.

11. The hospitals were too small for the number of sick and wounded men. The men died by hundreds every day. In the first book I told you how Florence Nightingale and a noble band of ladies went out to the East to nurse the poor soldiers.

12. At home everybody was sorry for them. The ladies and girls knitted socks and comforters for them, and all sorts of good things were sent out to the army. Fearful mistakes, however, were made, and few of the good things reached the soldiers at all.

13. The war did not end until the great fortress of Sebastopol was won. Every day for a year five or six hundred great cannon threw their balls into this fortress, but it still held out. At last it was

nothing but a heap of ruins, and then the Russians were obliged to leave it. Six months later the war came to an end.

14. The Crimean War, as it is called, did very little good, and caused a great amount of misery. Thousands of men lost their lives, and millions of pounds were spent. There were widows and orphans in many British homes, and many men returned to their firesides just as crippled and broken in health as our friend, the corporal, in the picture.

36. JESSIE'S DREAM.

1. Look well at the picture on page 133. It shows you the inside of a fort in the Indian city of Lucknow. The British women and children in this fort have been shut up for more than one hundred days.

2. Outside are the cruel natives, who have risen against their British masters. Day by day they have attacked the place. They are drawing nearer and nearer every hour.

3. For four long months the British in the fort have fought against the swarming thousands outside. Food has run short, sickness has raged, shot and shell have killed many of them; they are all sad, and weary, and worn; but still they will not give in.

Jessie's Dream.

(From the picture by F. Goodall, R.A., in the Mappin Art Gallery. By permission of the Corporation of Sheffield.)

4. Their brave leader, Sir Henry Lawrence, was killed soon after the siege began. A shell burst in the room in which he was sitting. As he lay dying he said, "Mind, never give up; rather let every man die at his post."

5. To-day there is a gleam of hope. Look at the girl on the sand-bags. Notice her eager face and uplifted forefinger. Her keen ears have caught a blessed sound. The poor mother behind her is offering up a silent prayer. An officer in the foreground is waving his cap.

6. The girl on the sand-bags is a Highland lassie named Jessie Brown. Last night she had a dream. She dreamt that she heard the bagpipes of the Highlanders who were coming to save them.

7. So real did the dream seem that she was sure it would come true. So to-day she lingers on the wall watching, ever watching; hoping, ever hoping.

8. Suddenly she screams out, "It's no dream! Dinna ye hear it? 'Tis the bagpipes! The Campbells are comin'! Can ye no hear them noo?" Everybody in the fort looks out eagerly.

9. They cannot hear the pipes, but they can hear the roar and rattle of a far-off fight. "Yes, yes, they are coming! We're saved! we're saved!" they cry.

10. Then they turn to their big guns, and fire on the foe. If they can hold out only for a few hours

longer, all will be well. They fight on and on, and then—there is no mistake about it now—they hear the blessed sound of the pipes.

11. "It was the pipes of the Highlanders,
And now they played 'Auld Lang Syne;'
It came to our men like the voice of God,
And they shouted along the line.

12. "And they wept, and shook one another's hands;
And the women sobbed in a crowd;
And every one knelt down where we stood,
And we all thanked God aloud."

13. All this took place during the great rising of the native soldiers in India in the year 1857. They shot down their officers, and did many other cruel deeds. They put to death not only men, but helpless women and children.

14. For a time it was thought that we should lose India. After a year's fighting, however, the rising was put down, and nothing of the kind has happened since.

37. THE STORY OF SOUTH AFRICA.—I.

1. In the first book I told you something about good Queen Victoria. You know that she reigned for sixty-four years—that is, longer than any other king or queen in all British history.

Lord Roberts entering Pretoria.

(From the picture by Sidney Paget. By permission of the Editor of "The Sphere.")

2. During her long reign many great changes took place, and our country now is very different from what it was in the year 1837, when she came to the throne.

3. The greatest change of all has been in the growth of the British lands beyond the seas. When Queen Victoria came to the throne, the British Empire was only half as large as it is now. At the present time, if we were to divide the earth into five equal parts, one of these parts would represent the size of the British Empire.

4. In this book I have told you how we won Canada and India, the two chief British countries across the sea. You know that our soldiers had to fight hard for them. Now let me tell you the story of South Africa, which we also won by war.

5. Cape Colony was first settled by the Dutch, but during the wars with Napoleon our soldiers seized it. At first we held only a small part of the country, near to what is now known as Cape Town. The Kafirs or black men of South Africa gave us much trouble, and many years went by before settlers began to spread over the country.

6. Now you must remember that the Dutch settlers had been allowed to remain when the British became masters of the land. These Dutch farmers, or Boers, as they are called, disliked our rule.

7. They packed all their goods in great wagons

drawn by oxen, and with their wives and children marched off northwards. They meant to make new homes for themselves in the wild lands where white men had never lived before.

8. Some of them settled in what is now the Orange River Colony, and some of them pushed on into what we now call the Transvaal, while others went eastward into Natal. In these lands the Boers hoped to be free from British rule.

9. The British, however, followed them up, and made them understand that they could not get away from British rule. Natal was taken from them, but in the Orange River Colony and in the Transvaal they were allowed to rule themselves.

10. In the year 1877, however, the Dutch were so weak and poor that they could not keep the Kafirs in order. The British therefore said that the Transvaal would be ruled by them for the future, and not by the Dutch.

11. The Boers would not agree to this. They took up arms, and in 1880 war broke out. There were not many British soldiers in the country, and they were beaten by the Boers.

12. Then a large British army was sent to the Transvaal, but no battle was fought. The war was stopped, and the Boers were allowed to rule their country as before.

13. About this time the Transvaal was found to be

a very rich country. Gold mines were discovered, and thousands of Britons flocked to the country to work them. The Boers were sorry to see them come, for they wished to be left alone to live in their own way.

14. The Boers would not give these "Outlanders," as the strangers were called, a share in the government of the country. The Outlanders had to pay heavy taxes, but they were not allowed to vote for members of Parliament, and they had no voice in making the laws of the land.

15. They felt that they were unjustly treated, and they tried to get their rights by force. A band of armed Britons broke into the country to help the Outlanders, but it was beaten, and the leaders were put into prison. As time went on the quarrel grew more and more bitter. Britain took the part of the Outlanders, and in October 1899 war broke out.

38. THE STORY OF SOUTH AFRICA.—II.

1. The Boers were quite ready for war, but the British were not. They dashed into Natal, and attacked the small British army in that country. Several fierce battles were fought, and our soldiers had to take refuge in the little town of Ladysmith.

2. The Boers closed round the town and besieged

it. They also besieged two other towns, called Mafeking and Kimberley. For months the people in these towns suffered greatly, but they did not give in.

3. Meanwhile ships full of soldiers and stores were on the way to South Africa, and in the course of a few weeks a large British army was in the field. The Boers, however, knew the country so well, and were such good marksmen, that they beat parties of British soldiers time after time. Some people now thought that we should lose South Africa altogether.

4. When things were at their worst, the British nation roused itself. It sent its two greatest generals to the front, and it asked the people of the British lands beyond the seas to come to its aid.

5. They came gladly at its call. Men from Canada, Australia, New Zealand, and other British colonies, were eager to help. At home many volunteers came forward, and before long we had in South Africa the largest army which has ever been gathered together in all our history.

6. At length the dark days passed away, and brighter days began to dawn. Lord Roberts pushed on towards Pretoria, the capital of the country, and the Boers fell back before him. In one day four thousand of them were forced to lay down their arms.

7. Soon the Boers round Kimberley, Ladysmith, and Mafeking were obliged to go to the help of their comrades in other parts of the country. Then

our soldiers entered these towns, to the great joy of the poor people in them.

8. They had been cut off from their friends for many long months. They had suffered hunger, thirst, and sickness while the Boers were hemming them in and firing shot and shell at them. You can imagine their delight and thankfulness when they knew they were free once more.

9. On June 1, 1900, Lord Roberts entered Pretoria. Then the Boers split up into small parties, and for nearly two years they fought against us, though they had no hope of winning.

10. At last, in May 1902, the Boer leaders said they were ready to make peace. For ten days the British generals and the Boers talked the matter over. At last, on Sunday, June 1, 1902, the good news reached London that peace had been made. Every Briton rejoiced that the war had come to an end.

11. The Transvaal and the Orange River Colony are now British lands, and our King is their King. Let us hope that as the years go by Britons and Boers will become the best of friends. It will be a happy day when the Boers are glad to call themselves Britons, and are proud of the British flag.

Poetry for Recitation.

1. THE EAGLES HAVE FLOWN!

[*After the Romans left Britain, the Picts and the Scots, and fierce pirates from across the North Sea, swooped down on the land. The Britons were at their mercy. They begged the Romans to come back to their aid, and once or twice they did so. As time went on, however, the Romans were unable to send help. Then the English, seeing the "nothingness of the Britons and the goodness of the land," conquered the country and settled in it. The following verses show us the despair of the Britons when the eagles had flown—that is, when the Romans had left the country to its fate.*]

1. Woe, woe to our land! for Rome is no more:
   Her legions have left us, and we are alone;
   Her galleys are fading away from our shore.
   All hope has gone with them. *The eagles have flown!*

2. Where is our bulwark, our sword, and our shield?
   (List, O ye gods, to our pitiful moan!)
   We know not to war, and no weapons we wield;
   Who, who shall defend us? *The eagles have flown!*

3. They taught us to labour, to build, and to plough,
   To fashion the clay and to quarry the stone.
   Vain, vain all our learning to succour us now!
   The foe is upon us. *The eagles have flown!*

4. They come from the north, they come from the east;
Swift o'er the ocean their long ships are blown.
They come to the slaughter, as wolves to a feast;
They rend us in pieces. *The eagles have flown!*

5. Our roof-trees they burn, our kinsfolk they slay;
From battle we flee, our feebleness known;
We perish by night, and we perish by day.
Say, what shall the end be? *The eagles have flown!*

6. They drive us like sheep to the pitiless wave;
Back by the sea on the beach we are thrown.
O Rome! in thy mercy, send hither and save!
Alas, all is over! *The eagles have flown!*

7. Doomed is our country; our end draweth nigh;
Soon shall the stranger call Britain his own!
The sword is our portion; our fate is to die!
Britannia is England! *The eagles have flown!*

EDWARD SHIRLEY.

2. "NON ANGLI, SED ANGELI SUNT."

[*In Lesson 4 you read the story of how Gregory saw the English slave boys at Rome and became interested in their land. The following verses tell the same story.*]

1. 'TWAS in the Roman Forum,
Twelve hundred years ago,
A band of fair-haired children stood,
A bright and goodly show.

A holy monk in passing
Inquired who might they be;
They tell him they are Angli,
From isles beyond the sea.
Then said the priest with smiling eye,
"*Non Angli sunt, sed angeli.*"*

2. "Hast heard of God? hast read of Christ?"
To one the old man said;
The blue-eyed boy looked wondering up,
And slowly shook his head,—
For in the land they came from,
God's name was then unknown,
They blindly worshipped images,
Gods made of wood and stone.
Then said the priest with weeping eye,
"*Non Angli sunt, sed angeli.*"

[*Years pass, and Gregory becomes Pope of Rome.*]

3. Then straight he sends to England
St. Austin,† with the band
Of holy men to preach for Christ
Throughout the Angle-land—
To tell of God's glad tidings
Of joy, beyond the grave—

* The Latin for "They are not Angles, but angels."
† Austin, a short form of the word Augustine.

To tell how Jesus came to earth
The souls of men to save.
So truly did the old man cry,
"*Non Angli sunt, sed angeli!*"

4. "*Sunt angeli!*" Yes, ever since
Hath England done her best
To spread abroad through all the land
The news of peace and rest;
Where'er the bright sun shineth
Her messengers are found,
With girded loins and staff in hand,
Spreading the joyful sound.
So truly did that good priest cry,
"*Non Angli sunt, sed angeli!*"

D. M. COLERIDGE.

3. WHO SHALL BE KING?

[*An old story tells us that when William the First was old he wished to choose one of his sons to follow him on the throne. How the choice was made is told in the following verses.*]

1. The king was old; his steps were slow;
His arm had lost its might;
His hair was white as driven snow;
His eye no longer bright.

"Alas, my life has well-nigh flown,"
King William sadly said.
"Now who shall sit upon my throne
When I am cold and dead?"

2. He thought of ROBERT, blithe and bold,
Unstable, fitful, vain;
He thought of WILLIAM'S greed for gold
And halted 'twixt the twain.
He thought of HENRY, and he sighed
Although he loved him well.
"Now which of them to choose," he cried,
"I surely cannot tell."

3. He called the wise and learnèd men
Who helped to rule his land.
He brought his princes three to them,
And gave them this command:—
"Ye see the sons I hither bring.
Choose ye the best, I crave,
And he shall reign as England's king
When I am in my grave."

4. "O king!" they cried, "grant us to speak
With each young prince alone.
Thus we shall find out what we seek—
The best to grace thy throne."

The king agreed. And first there came
Prince ROBERT, bluff and free;
His fiery temper none could tame,
Headstrong and reckless he.

5. A grave old sire took up the word.
"Young prince, pray list to me:
If you might change into a bird,
What bird, pray, would you be?"
"I'd be a *hawk*," he made reply.
"I'd chase and kill all day;
I'd be the swiftest in the sky,
And make all birds my prey."

6. Then came Prince WILLIAM. He, likewise,
Was asked what bird he'd be.
"I'd be an *eagle* in the skies;
No other bird for me.
I'd be the king of all, and none
Should dare to disobey;
I'd soar right up towards the sun,
And rule the realm of day."

7. Then HENRY came; and he in turn
Was asked what bird he'd be.
"I'd be a *starling*, for it is
A gentle bird," quoth he.

"It is so kind and sweet and good,
It brings such joy and glee.
Of all the birds within the wood,
This is the bird I'd be."

8. Then came the wise men to the king,
And spake with heart and voice:
"Lo! HENRY is the prince we bring
To be his father's choice.
He loves not bloodshed, nor will he
His people trample down;
But mercy, love, and joy will be
The jewels in his crown."

EDWARD SHIRLEY.

4. SALADIN'S GIFT.

[*Saladin, the Sultan of the Saracens, who fought against King Richard in the Third Crusade, admired the English king, and more than once did him friendly service. The following verses tell you of one of his kindly deeds towards King Richard.*]

1. King Richard rode his steed *Faudelle*,
The proudest steed in all the fray,
And deeds of wondrous might he wrought
Against the Saracen that day.

2. When, lo! a shaft smote proud *Faudelle*,
And pierced her throat full deep and sore;
She fell, and gasped her life away—
King Richard's charger was no more.

3. "Farewell," he cried, "comrade and friend,
Faithful and true with latest breath!
I'll fight on foot, and ere the night
I will avenge thy cruel death."

4. Now Saladin the Saracen,
Spurring across that stricken field,
Saw Richard's charger lying dead,
And he on foot with sword and shield.

5. "Go," said the Sultan to his squire,
"Bring here a barb of royal strain,
That fitly yonder English king
May in the fight be horsed again."

6. Fast spurred the squire across the plain,
And led with him an Arab steed
Straight to the English lines, and checked
By Richard's side his charger's speed.

7. "For thee from Saladin," he cried,
"From one who needs must wish thee well—
A knightly token; may it prove
Some solace for thy dead *Faudelle.*"

8. King Richard doffed his casque and said,
"Thy master's kingly heart I know;
My thanks to Saladin the Great,
In sooth he is a noble foe!"

9. And when the weary war was o'er,
And Richard feasted with his kin,
He loved to tell the tale, and praise
The chivalry of Saladin.

10. "You call him pagan," he would say,
"And infidel. Well, be it so;
I'd rather battle by his side
Than by some Christian kings I know."

G. S.

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5. ROBIN HOOD AND ALLEN-A-DALE.

[*This is one of the many stories told in verse about the doings of Robin Hood.*]

1. As Robin Hood in the forest stood,
All under the greenwood tree,
There was he aware of a fine young man,
As fine as fine could be.

2. The youngster was clothed in scarlet red,
In scarlet fine and gay;
And he did frisk it over the plain,
And chanted a roundelay.

3. As Robin Hood next morning stood
Amongst the leaves so gay,
There did he spy the same young man
Come drooping along the way.

4. The scarlet he wore the day before
It was clean cast away,
And at every step he fetched a sigh,
"Alack! and well-a-day!"

5. Then stepped forth brave Little John
And Midge the miller's son,
Which made the young man bend his bow
When as he saw them come.

6. "Stand off! stand off!" the young man said;
"What is your will with me?"
"You must come before our master straight,
Under yon greenwood tree."

7. And when he came bold Robin before,
Robin asked him courteously,
"Oh, hast thou any money to spare
For my merry men and me?"

8. "I have no money," the young man said,
"But five shillings and a ring,
And that I have kept these seven long years
To have at my wedding.

9. "Yesterday I should have married a maid;
But the same from me was ta'en,
And chosen to be an old knight's delight,
Whereby my poor heart is slain."

10. "What is thy name?" then said Robin Hood;
"Come, tell me without any fail."
"By the faith of my body," thus said the young man,
"My name is Allen-a-Dale."

11. "What wilt thou give me," said Robin Hood,
"In ready gold, as fee,
To help thee to thy true love again,
And deliver her up to thee?"

12. "I have no money," then quoth the young man,
"No ready gold, as fee;
But I will swear, upon a book,
Thy true servant to be."

13. Then Robin he hasted over the plain;
He would neither rest nor sleep,
Until he came unto the church
Where Allen his wedding should keep.

14. With that there came in a wealthy knight,
Which was both grave and old;
And after him a familiar lass
Did shine like glittering gold.

15. "This is not a fit match," quoth Robin Hood,
"That you do seem to make here;
For since we are come unto the church
The bride shall choose her own dear."

16. Then Robin Hood put his horn to his mouth,
And blew out blasts two or three;
Then four-and-twenty bowmen bold
Came leaping o'er the lea.

17. And when they came into the churchyard,
Marching all in a row,
The first man was Allen-a-Dale
To give bold Robin his bow.

18. "This is thy true love," Robin he said,
"Young Allen, as I hear say;
And you shall be married at the same time,
Before we depart away."

19. And thus, having ended this merry wedding,
The bride she looked like a queen;
And so they returned to the merry greenwood,
Amongst the leaves so green.

OLD BALLAD (*abridged*).

6. QUEEN MARGARET AND THE ROBBER.

[*An old story tells us that after the battle of Hexham, Queen Margaret and her young son hid in a wood, and were befriended by a robber. The story is told in the following verses.*]

1. The Red Rose was beaten,
The White Rose had won;
The queen was in hiding
With Edward her son.

2. Her heart was the proudest
That ever was known,
Her spirit the bravest
To fight for her throne.

3. The croak of the raven,
The cry of the child,
The depth of the forest,
The wind rushing wild,

4. Tried hard her high spirit
With whispers of fear—
When sudden a footstep
Came near and more near.

5. A man all in armour
Came tramping between
The brambles and brushwood,
And fronted the queen.

6. "Now stand and deliver
Your jewels, your gold;
Yield all you have on you,
And nothing withhold.

7. "For I am an outlaw,
My weapon is keen!"
"Friend, lower and sheathe it
For I am the queen.

8. "Your king is in prison,
Now rescue his son;
My gold and my jewels
The Yorkists have won."

9. The wind swept the heavens,
The moon shone out bright,
The child and the lady
Stood full in the light.

10. Bright-haired, like an angel,
Prince Edward was seen;
And there never was woman
Could look like the queen.

11. "My castle is taken,
My children are dead;
I took to the forest—
A price on my head.

12. "To plunder the Yorkists
My conscience was free,
False Edward had never
My oath or my knee."

13. He knelt low in homage—
"Your lives I can save;
But here is no palace,
But only a cave.

14. "An arm to defend you,
A heart that is true
In death, or in exile,
To yours and to you."

15. The Wars of the Roses
Were cruel and wrong,
The weak and the simple
Were crushed by the strong.

16. But one heart was faithful,
One good deed was done,
When the outlaw protected
The queen and her son.

C. J. COLERIDGE.

7. QUEEN VICTORIA'S PROMISE.

[*A pretty story tells us that when the Princess Victoria learned that she was heiress to the throne she wept, and said, "I will be good."*]

1. Near London is a garden,
All fresh and green and cool,
Where little children run and laugh,
And ducks swim in a pool.

2. The children feed the ducklings,
Birds sing, and all is gay,
Near to the fine old palace,
At the blooming of the May.

3. Within that old red palace,
One morning long ago,
A maiden said her lessons,
And learned to read and sew.

4. A stately little lady,
Blue eyed, and fair to see,
With all her might and all her wits
She learned her history.

5. A princess must not dawdle,
Tis hard to learn to rule,
And she must do her lessons
Like you who go to school.

6. She must obey her teachers—
No better child was seen;
And when she ruled the country,
Was never better queen.

7. "See, princess," said her tutor,
"The root from which you spring;
Show how the throne descended
To our present gracious king."

8. Through Saxon, Dane, and Norman,
Through good and ill report,
From Egbert down to William,
The royal line she sought.

9. Plantagenet and Tudor,
Scotch Stewart and German Guelph,
Down all the generations—
At last she found herself.

10. "My uncle has no children:
Who, when he comes to die,
Will then be king of England—
O mother! is it I?

11. "For I can find no other
That is so near in blood;
I am his brother's daughter,
But I never understood—"

12. "My child," then said her mother,
"*You* are King William's heir;
You will be queen of England—
God keep you in His care!"

13. And then the child's white forehead
Flushed with new thoughts and fears:
Her blue eyes shone with purpose,
Although they filled with tears.

14. "Mamma, what you have told me
Is a solemn thing to hear;
I'll try to do my duty,
But I am full of fear."

15. And well she kept her promise
Through all her length of life;
And all her subjects blessed her—
Good mother, queen, and wife.

C. J. COLERIDGE.

8. GREEN FIELDS OF ENGLAND.

1. Green fields of England! wheresoe'er
Across this watery waste we fare,
One image at our hearts we bear,
Green fields of England, everywhere.

2. Sweet eyes in England! I must flee
Past where the waves' last confines be,
Ere your loved smile I cease to see,
Sweet eyes of England, dear to me.

3. Dear home in England! safe and fast,
If but in thee my lot be cast,
The past shall seem a nothing past
To thee, dear home, if won at last—
Dear home in England, won at last.

A. H. CLOUGH.

9. CHILDREN OF THE EMPIRE.

1. Children of the Empire, you are brothers all;
Children of the Empire, answer to the call:

Let your voices mingle, lift your heads and sing,
"God save dear old Britain, and God save Britain's King!"

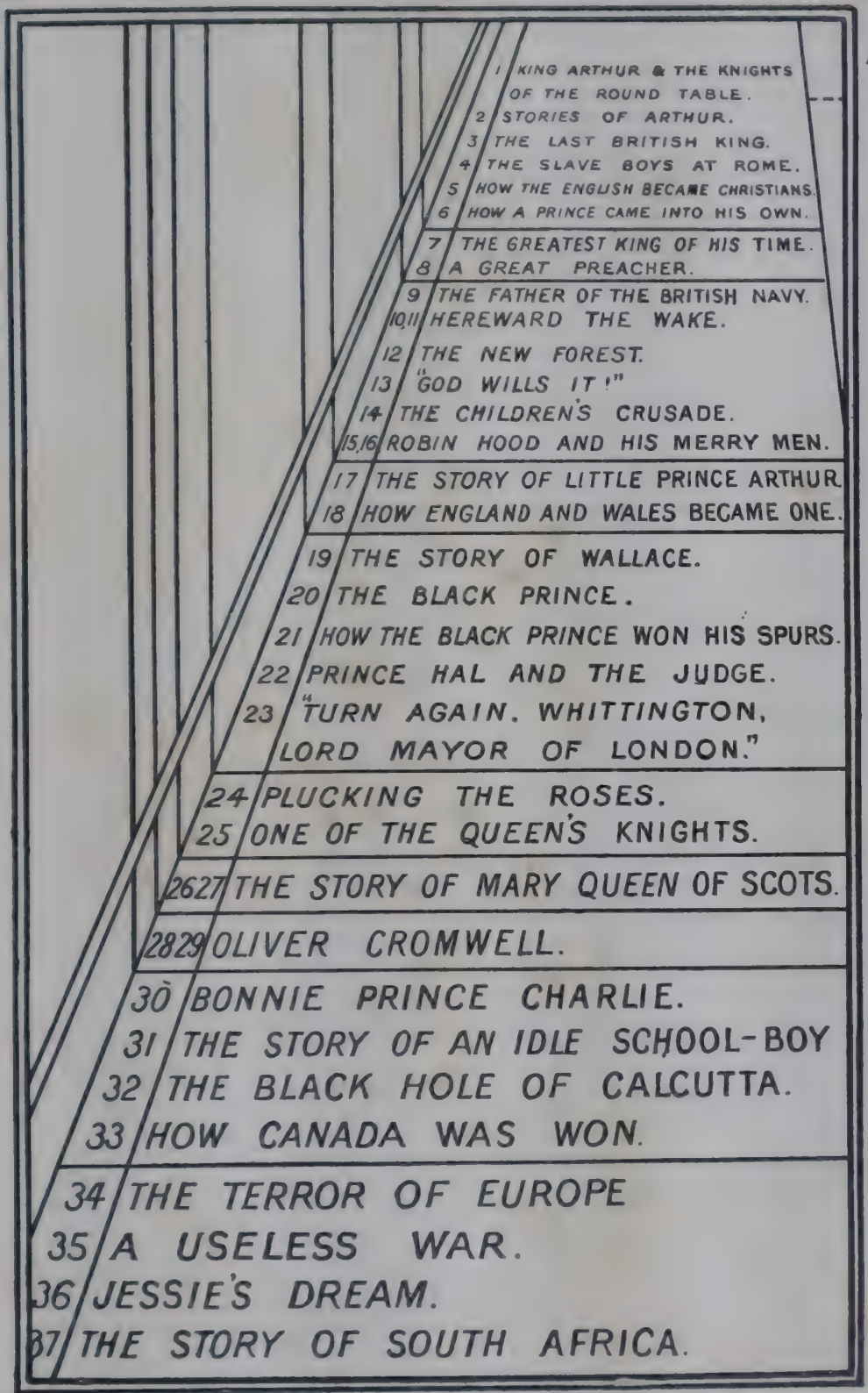
2. Children of the Empire, your fathers fought and died
That you might stand, a noble band, in honour and in pride;
That you might do the thing you will, and strike with arm of might
For justice and for freedom's sake, for country, king, and right.

3 Children of the Empire, from little isles they came
To spread abroad in every land the magic of their fame;
They toiled, they strove, they perished, that you and I might see
The fair, free lands of Britain arise in every sea.

4. Children of the Empire, clasp hands across the main,
And glory in your brotherhood again and yet again.
Uphold your noble heritage—oh, never let it fall—
And love the land that bore you, but the Empire best of all!

EDWARD SHIRLEY.

TIME CHART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1 KING ARTHUR & THE KNIGHTS OF THE ROUND TABLE.
2 STORIES OF ARTHUR.
3 THE LAST BRITISH KING.
4 THE SLAVE BOYS AT ROME.
5 HOW THE ENGLISH BECAME CHRISTIANS.
6 HOW A PRINCE CAME INTO HIS OWN.
7 THE GREATEST KING OF HIS TIME.
8 A GREAT PREACHER.
9 THE FATHER OF THE BRITISH NAVY.
10,11 HEREWARD THE WAKE.
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15,16 ROBIN HOOD AND HIS MERRY MEN.
17 THE STORY OF LITTLE PRINCE ARTHUR.
18 HOW ENGLAND AND WALES BECAME ONE.
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21 HOW THE BLACK PRINCE WON HIS SPURS.
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2829 OLIVER CROMWELL.
30 BONNIE PRINCE CHARLIE.
31 THE STORY OF AN IDLE SCHOOL-BOY
32 THE BLACK HOLE OF CALCUTTA.
33 HOW CANADA WAS WON.
34 THE TERROR OF EUROPE
35 A USELESS WAR.
36 JESSIE'S DREAM.
37 THE STORY OF SOUTH AFRICA.

SUMMARIES OF THE LESSONS.

1. KING ARTHUR AND THE KNIGHTS OF THE ROUND TABLE.—King Arthur was a British king. When the Romans had left Britain, and the English were trying to win it, Arthur led the Britons against their foes. He fought many battles with the English. He gathered about him a band of brave and noble knights. They sat at a round table to show that all were equal. Because of this they were known as the Knights of the Round Table.

2. STORIES OF ARTHUR.—Arthur's castle was at Tintagel, on the northern shore of Cornwall. In this castle he and his knights lived more than fourteen hundred years ago. Wonderful stories are told of their doings. Many of these stories are little more than fairy tales. Thus, the story of how Arthur pulled the magic sword out of the anvil, and thus proved himself to be the rightful king, is only a fairy tale.

3. THE LAST BRITISH KING.—Arthur fought twelve battles with the English. In the last battle he beat them with great slaughter. At last some of the British joined the English, and together they overcame Arthur. An old story tells us how the magic sword was flung into the lake, and how the dying king was placed on board a barge and three queens tended him The barge then sailed away and vanished in the distance.

4. THE SLAVE BOYS AT ROME.—One hundred years after the death of Arthur the English were masters of Britain. Many of the Britons had become Christians, but the English were heathen. They were wild, rough men, and they loved fighting better than life itself. This lesson tells you how men were first sent from Rome to teach them of the true God. The monk who saw the little slave boys in the market was Gregory. He wished to go to England and teach the people, but the Romans would not let him go. Afterwards he became Pope of Rome. Then he sent monks to this country.

5. HOW THE ENGLISH BECAME CHRISTIANS.—Ethelbert, king of Kent, had married Bertha, the daughter of a French king. Bertha was a Christian She tried to turn her husband to the true faith, but for a time

she could not do so. At last she got her husband to write to Pope Gregory asking him to send monks to England Gregory sent forty monks, with Augustine at their head. Augustine and his monks soon taught many of the people the worship of the true God. Ethelbert became a Christian, and the new faith spread far and wide. One hundred years after Augustine's landing nearly all the English were Christians. Augustine became the first Archbishop of Canterbury.

6. HOW A PRINCE CAME INTO HIS OWN.—When Augustine died there were seven kings in the land, the most powerful of them being Ethelbert, king of Kent. The first king to become overlord of the other kings was Edwin, whose father ruled over one of the kingdoms in the north of England. Edwin was a baby when his father died. Ethelfrith seized his kingdom. Edwin was brought up in Wales by a British king. When he was a young man, Edwin went to the court of Redwald, who was king over part of East England. Ethelfrith tried to get Redwald to give up Edwin, but he did not do so. Redwald fought Ethelfrith and slew him. Then Edwin came into his own.

7. THE GREATEST KING OF HIS TIME.—Edwin was now king of all the country from the Humber to the Tweed. He married Ethelburga, the daughter of Queen Bertha of Kent. Ethelburga tried hard to make Edwin a Christian. She took with her to her northern home a priest named Paulinus. One day Edwin had a narrow escape from the dagger of a foe. Paulinus told the king that he ought to thank God for his escape. This made him think about being a Christian. He called his wise men together to talk the matter over.

8. A GREAT PREACHER.—Edwin and his chief men at last became Christians, and Paulinus went to and fro teaching the people. He became the first Archbishop of York. Edwin now became the most powerful king in England. His land was very peaceful. An old heathen king joined the Welsh and fought him. He was slain, and then there was a time of much bloodshed and misery. About two hundred years later a prince named Egbert became the first real overlord of all England. An old story tells us that he was once rowed by six kings on the Dee at Chester.

9. THE "FATHER OF THE BRITISH NAVY."—Britain is "mistress of the seas" because she has the most powerful fleet of warships afloat. The first English king to build ships of war was Alfred. About the year 877 the Danes in their long black ships or "keels" crossed the North Sea, and landed on our shores to rob and burn and kill. Soon they grew bolder, and settled down on the land. King Alfred had to give up part of the east of England

to them Then Alfred built a hundred ships nearly twice as large and swifter and stronger than those of the Danes. With these ships he guarded the coast of England. We may therefore call him the "Father of the British Navy."

10. HEREWARD THE WAKE.—I.—About one hundred years after the death of Alfred, Canute the Dane became king of England. After the death of his two sons, the wise men chose a king belonging to Alfred's family His name was Edward He had been brought up in Normandy, and was very fond of the Normans. One of these Normans was William, Duke of Normandy. When Edward died the English chose Harold, son of Earl Godwin, as their king. Then William gathered together a great army, and crossed over to England. He beat Harold at the battle of Hastings, and was crowned king of England He was not yet master of the country For four years he had to fight many battles. At Ely, in the marshy district of the Fens, Hereward, an Englishman, made a camp, and gathered many bold men about him. Here he defied William. He was so watchful and wide-awake that he was known as Hereward the Wake. William soon saw that he must take Hereward's camp or lose England He set up a camp not far from Ely, and made a firm road to within half a mile of the place. This half mile was black mud and water, and across it William made a floating bridge

11. HEREWARD THE WAKE.—II.—When William's men tried to cross this bridge their weight broke it down, and many of them were drowned in the slimy water William then built a stronger bridge to within fifty yards of Hereward's stronghold When the Normans marched on to the bridge Hereward set fire to the reeds The bridge was burned, and many of William's soldiers were burned or drowned. Then he besieged the island, and tried to starve the people into yielding. The monks of Ely at last told William the secret road into Hereward's camp, and Hereward only just escaped. Hereward was afterwards pardoned, and fought bravely for William. He has been called the "last of the English."

12. THE NEW FOREST.—The New Forest is in Hampshire, to the west of Southampton Water It was new about eight hundred years ago, and was made by William the First, who was very fond of hunting. It is said that he burned down villages and laid waste fields in order to make the forest. His son, William the Red or Rufus, was slain in the forest. Some say Sir Walter Tyrrel shot an arrow at a stag, but missed it, and the arrow glancing off a tree struck the king in the breast. The English were glad to be rid of William, for he was a bad, cruel, greedy man. Another son of William the First was killed in the same forest.

13. "GOD WILLS IT!"—The Holy Wars were fought against the Turks, who were then, and are now, masters of the Holy Land. These Holy Wars were called Crusades, because the soldiers wore a cross on their breasts. There were many of these wars, and the chief of them took place nearly a hundred years after William Rufus was slain in the New Forest. The first man to stir up the people to fight the Turks was Peter the Hermit. So powerful was his preaching that people of all sorts went to the Holy Land to try to win it. Our greatest Crusader was Richard of the Lion Heart. He fought his way to Jerusalem, but could not take it. At last the Turks promised to let Christians worship at the tomb of our Lord, and Richard sailed for home.

14. THE CHILDREN'S CRUSADE.—The children started a Crusade of their own. They were led by a shepherd lad. Thirty thousand children left their homes for the Holy Land. The priests said that a miracle would be wrought, and the children would overcome the Turks. The children grew very weary and hungry, and some of them died by the wayside. When they came to the shores of the Mediterranean Sea some of them went on board seven ships. Two of the ships were wrecked. The other ships reached a seaport on the coast of Africa, where many of the children were sold as slaves.

15. 16. ROBIN HOOD AND HIS MERRY MEN.—I. and II.—Robin Hood lived in the reign of Richard the First. The people were then very poor. They had to pay heavy taxes, and they were crushed by harsh and cruel laws. There were many thick forests in England in those days, and in these forests outlaws could be safe from their foes. Robin Hood was an outlaw, and he lived in Sherwood Forest. He was the best bowman of his time. He only robbed the rich, and gave to the poor. Many stories have been told about him in verse. One of them is printed on page 148. Robin is said to have been at court with the king for a time; but he soon got tired of the life, and longed for the old freedom of the greenwoods once more. He is said to have died at the abbey of Kirkless in Yorkshire. We must think of Robin Hood as one who stood up for the English against their Norman masters.

17. THE STORY OF LITTLE PRINCE ARTHUR.—King John was the brother of King Richard of the Lion Heart. He reigned after Richard the First, and was the worst king who ever sat on the English throne. The rightful king was little Arthur, John's nephew. He was only twelve years of age. John was afraid that Arthur's friends would drive him from the throne. He therefore shut up his nephew in a castle, and hired men to put out the lad's eyes. Hubert, the governor of the castle, was a good man, and would not allow the men to do so. Then John had Arthur removed to another castle, and soon after the poor boy was murdered by his uncle.

John never knew a moment's peace or happiness afterwards. He went mad, and with a band of hired soldiers waged war on his people. He died thirteen years after the murder of Arthur.

18. HOW ENGLAND AND WALES BECAME ONE.—Edward the First was the grandson of King John. He was so tall that people called him Longshanks. He had fought in the Crusades, and was a very brave, strong man, though sometimes he was harsh and cruel. Three years after he came to the throne he led an army into Wales. Many fierce fights were fought; the Welsh king was slain, and the Welsh were overcome. Then Edward built a number of strong castles, and filled them with soldiers. In one of these castles (Carnarvon Castle) his eldest son was born. The Welsh chiefs agreed to have the child for their prince, and he became Prince of Wales. From that day to this the eldest living son of the king or queen of England has been made Prince of Wales.

19. THE STORY OF WALLACE.—When Wales was won, Edward tried to conquer Scotland. At that time thirteen men claimed the Scottish throne. Edward said he was overlord of Scotland, and that he would act as umpire between these men. He chose John Baliol, who was a weak man. Edward soon began to act as though he were king of Scotland. This made the Scots very angry. They raised an army and sent it into England. Thereupon Edward marched north with a great force, and beat the Scots in battle. He then thought that he had tamed Scotland, but he was mistaken. In a year the people rose under a young squire of Lanarkshire named William Wallace. He was a very brave man, who loved his country better than life. He gathered an army together, and defeated the English general at Stirling. After this battle Wallace was master of Scotland. Then Edward marched north with a great army and overcame the Scots. Wallace was betrayed, and tried in London. He was found guilty, and put to a cruel death.

20. THE BLACK PRINCE.—The Black Prince was the son of Edward the Third, who was the grandson of Edward the First. His name, too, was Edward, and he was called the Black Prince because he wore black armour. Edward the Third claimed the throne of France, and led an army into that country. He overran Normandy, and pushed so far inland that he was in danger of being surrounded. When he heard that Philip, king of France, was leading a hundred thousand men against him, he turned north towards the friendly country of Flanders. Having crossed the Somme, he drew up his army on the side of a hill near the village of Crécy. He gave young Edward command of the first division of the army, as he wished the Black Prince to "win his spurs."

21. HOW THE BLACK PRINCE WON HIS SPURS.—The battle of Crécy was fought between the English and the French on August 26, 1346. The English longbowmen were the heroes of the fight. They shot down the men and horses of the enemy so fast that the French only reached the English line in a few places. In one of these places they fell fiercely on the division led by the Black Prince. King Edward was asked to send help, but he would not, and in the end the French were driven off. At evening the French fled, leaving four thousand knights and men-at-arms dead on the field. The Black Prince had won his spurs. The motto, "Ich Dien," which means "I serve," was on the banner of the blind King John of Bohemia, who was slain in the fight. The Black Prince took the motto as his own, and it has been the motto of the Princes of Wales ever since.

22. PRINCE HAL AND THE JUDGE.—Prince Hal, who was afterwards known as Henry the Fifth, was a great-grandson of Edward the Third. He was a tall, brave youth, and in his younger days he was fond of wild companions. One of these companions was brought before a judge. Prince Hal told the judge to set the man free. The judge would not do so, and then the prince raised his hand to strike the judge, who sent him to prison. When Prince Hal became Henry the Fifth he praised the judge for being so bold and fearless. The story is told in Shakespeare's play *Henry V.*

23. "TURN AGAIN, WHITTINGTON, LORD MAYOR OF LONDON."—Richard Whittington lived in the reign of Henry the Fifth. He came to London as a poor boy, and an old story tells us that a cat helped him to fortune. He became Lord Mayor of London, and was made a knight by the king. He was very kind to his poor neighbours, and did much for London.

24. PLUCKING THE ROSES.—Henry the Sixth was the son of Henry the Fifth. He was a man of weak mind and will. In his reign Richard, Duke of York, claimed the throne. A quarrel broke out between these men, and this led to war. The friends of Henry wore a red rose, the friends of Richard a white rose. Because of this the war was called the War of the Roses. It lasted off and on for nearly thirty years. It came to an end in 1485, when the battle of Bosworth Field was fought between Henry Tudor, the leader of the Red Roses, and Richard the Second, the leader of the White Roses. Henry won. He then married Elizabeth, the daughter of Edward the Fourth, the White Rose king who reigned before Richard the Second. In this way the War of the Roses came to an end.

25. ONE OF THE QUEEN'S KNIGHTS.—The queen was Queen Elizabeth, and the knight was Walter Raleigh, the son of a Devonshire

gentleman. He grew up to be one of the bravest and cleverest men in England. When he was a young man the queen took a fancy to him. He formed a settlement in America, and was the first to bring potatoes and tobacco to this country. After the death of Elizabeth he was charged with plotting against the new king, James the First, and was found guilty. He was not beheaded, but kept in prison for thirteen years. Then he offered to go to South America in search of gold for the king. James agreed, but Raleigh did not find the gold, and on his return he was beheaded.

26. THE STORY OF MARY QUEEN OF SCOTS. — I. — Mary Queen of Scots was the mother of James the First of England and the Sixth of Scotland. Her father was James the Fifth of Scotland. She was only seven days old when her father died. As a little girl she was sent to live in France, and in 1558 when she was sixteen years of age she married the son of the king of France. Her husband died in 1560, and Mary set sail for Scotland, where she was very unhappy. Four years later she married her cousin, Lord Darnley. In the next year Darnley murdered his wife's favourite servant. Mary was very angry. She formed a friendship with Bothwell, who is said to have blown up the house in which Darnley was lying sick. Three months later Mary married Bothwell. The Scots rose against her. They imprisoned her in Loch Leven Castle, and made her give up her crown to her little boy James.

27. THE STORY OF MARY QUEEN OF SCOTS. — II. — Mary escaped from Loch Leven Castle, and her friends flocked to her. A battle was fought near Glasgow, and Mary's army was beaten. She fled to England for safety, but Elizabeth would not see her. Nor would Elizabeth let her go to Scotland or to France. She kept her a prisoner for eighteen years. Mary's friends plotted to kill Elizabeth and put Mary on the throne. Mary knew of these plots. She was tried for plotting against the Queen of England and was found guilty. She was beheaded at the age of forty-five.

28. OLIVER CROMWELL.—I.—Oliver Cromwell was born eleven years after the defeat of the Armada. When he was twenty-nine years of age he became member of Parliament for Huntingdon, where he was born. He was a big, rough-looking man, with a plain face and a wart on his nose. In the great quarrel then going on between King Charles the First and the people he took the part of the people. Charles believed that he could make and unmake laws just as he pleased, and he said that the king could do no wrong. He tried to make the people pay whatever taxes he pleased. This was hateful to the Parliament. At last Charles sent the members home, and did without a Parliament altogether

29. OLIVER CROMWELL.—II.—The quarrel between king and Parliament grew so bitter that war broke out. The townsfolk sided with the Parliament, the nobles and country people with the king. At first the king's troops won battle after battle. Then Cromwell trained a body of horse-soldiers, who were called Ironsides. They beat the king's horse-soldiers in several battles. Then an army of men like the Ironsides was raised, and soon the king's army was beaten, and he had to fly from the battlefield. He gave himself up to the Scots, and the Scots gave him up to the Parliament. He was tried for making war on his people and found guilty. On January 30, 1649, he was beheaded. Then Cromwell became the real ruler of the land. He overcame both the Scots and the Irish, who wished to have Charles's son (Charles the Second) as king. Cromwell refused the crown. He was called Lord Protector. He did many unlawful things, but he made his country strong and great. He died when he was sixty years of age. When Charles the Second came to the throne Cromwell's bones were dug up and hung on a scaffold.

30. BONNIE PRINCE CHARLIE.—After the death of Charles the Second, his brother James the Second became king. James did so many unlawful things that he was driven from the throne. His daughter Mary and her Dutch husband William were asked to come over and be king and queen. They did so. James tried hard to win back his throne, but failed; his son tried too, and failed. Then his grandson, Prince Charles Edward, in the year 1745, made an attempt. He was a gay, light-hearted young man, with a handsome face and charming manners. He landed in the Western Highlands of Scotland with only seven men, but the Highlanders soon flocked to him, and he marched to Edinburgh with a large army. Then he pushed into England and reached Derby; but the people would not join him, and he was obliged to return to Scotland. The king's soldiers followed him, and a battle was fought near Inverness. The Highlanders were beaten, and Charles had to fly for his life. For months he was hunted high and low, but no one betrayed him, and at last he escaped to France.

31. THE STORY OF AN IDLE SCHOOL-BOY.—The idle school-boy was Robert Clive, who was born in Shropshire twenty years before Prince Charlie landed in Scotland. Clive was an idle and careless boy, always in mischief. His friends got him a post as a clerk in India. He was so miserable in India that he tried to shoot himself. His pistol would not go off, so he said, "I am meant for something; I will live." Soon after, he joined the army. Four years later he seized the fort of a prince who was on the side of the French. He was besieged in the fort by ten thousand troops for eleven weeks. At last his foes marched away. During the next three years Clive fought many battles and won for us the south-east of India

32. THE BLACK HOLE OF CALCUTTA.—Clive came to England for a holiday, and two years later returned to India. Soon after he landed, news was brought to him of the terrible affair of the Black Hole of Calcutta. Clive led an army against the wicked Prince of Bengal who had treated the British so badly, and beat him at the battle of Plassey. Clive had only one thousand British and two thousand natives, but with these he beat sixty thousand of the enemy. This battle won for us a large part of the land. Clive afterwards overcame the French, and soon the British were masters of the whole of India.

33. HOW CANADA WAS WON.—The man who won Canada for us was named James Wolfe. He was a soldier born and bred. He carried the colours of his regiment as a boy of fifteen, and at eighteen fought in the army of the king against Prince Charlie. He was only thirty-three when he was chosen to lead the British army in America, where we were fighting with the French. The British had settled along the east coast, and had formed a New England; the French had settled in Canada, and had formed a New France. The chief place in New France was Quebec. It stands at the foot and on the steep slopes of a great rock which juts out into the river St. Lawrence. Wolfe's men climbed the steep cliffs above Quebec, and on the Plains of Abraham beat the French army. Wolfe was killed in the fight, and so was the French general Montcalm.

34. THE TERROR OF EUROPE.—The "Terror of Europe" was Napoleon, emperor of the French. He was born in the little island of Corsica ten years after the taking of Quebec. He went to an army school in Paris, and at sixteen years of age became an officer in the French army. He rose step by step until he became the chief general. He won many battles, and at last became so powerful that the French people made him their emperor. Then he soon became master of Europe. He hated England, and tried to cripple her, but could not do so. Nelson destroyed the fleets of France and Spain in 1805. In 1812 Napoleon invaded Russia with six hundred thousand men, and reached Moscow, which shortly afterwards was set on fire. He had to retreat, and reached France with only one hundred thousand men. Then he found most of the nations of Europe in arms against him. His army in Spain had been beaten by the British, and Wellington was now marching towards Paris. He fought some fierce battles, but his foes were too strong for him, and he had to give up his throne. He was sent to the tiny island of Elba, where he waited and watched for a chance to win back France. The new king made himself disliked, and on March 1, 1815, Napoleon landed on the French coast. His old soldiers flocked to him, and soon he was master of France and leader of a great army once more. He met his foes at Waterloo, in Belgium. The British stood fast all day and towards evening

the Prussians appeared on the field. The British charged, and the French fled. Napoleon tried to escape from the country, but could not do so, and gave himself up to the captain of a British man-of-war. The British sent him to St. Helena, in the Atlantic Ocean, where he died after being a prisoner for six years.

35. A USELESS WAR.—The "useless war" was fought with Russia. The Russians wished to be masters of Turkey, and this the British and French would not allow. They joined with the Turks, and war broke out in 1854. Most of the fighting took place on a peninsula of South Russia known as the Crimea. During the winter of 1854–1855 our soldiers suffered terribly. The hospitals were too small for the number of sick and wounded men. Florence Nightingale and a noble band of ladies went out to nurse them. The war ended soon after the great fortress of Sebastopol was taken (1855).

36. JESSIE'S DREAM.—In the year 1857 the Sepoys or native soldiers of India rose against their English officers. They did many cruel deeds, and killed many helpless women and children. The Indian city of Lucknow was besieged by thousands of Sepoys. Sir Henry Lawrence, the officer in command, was killed soon after the siege began. The city held out for six months, and then was saved by the coming of the Highlanders under Sir Colin Campbell. After a year's fighting the Mutiny was put down, and nothing of the kind has happened since.

37. THE STORY OF SOUTH AFRICA.—I.—Many changes took place during the sixty-four years of Queen Victoria's reign. The greatest change of all was the growth of what we call the British Empire. We now hold one-fifth of the earth. You already know how Canada and India were won for us. How was South Africa won? It was first settled by the Dutch, but during the wars with Napoleon our soldiers seized it. Many of the Dutch settlers disliked British rule. They "trekked" northwards, and settled in what are now the Orange River Colony, the Transvaal, and Natal. Natal was taken from them, but in the Orange River Colony and the Transvaal they were allowed to rule themselves. In 1877 the British said that they would rule the Transvaal for the future. The Boers would not agree to this, and war broke out. A small British force was beaten by the Boers. Then a large army was sent to the Transvaal; but the war was stopped, and the Boers were allowed to rule their country as before. About this time the Transvaal was found to be very rich in gold. "Outlanders" flocked to it. These "Outlanders" had no votes, although they paid heavy taxes. They felt themselves unjustly treated, and tried to get their rights by force. The quarrel grew more and more bitter, and in October 1899 war broke out.

38. THE STORY OF SOUTH AFRICA. — II. — The first battles of the war were fought in Natal. Our soldiers were obliged to take refuge in the little town of Ladysmith, where they were besieged by the Boers. Two other towns, Mafeking and Kimberley, were also besieged. In a few weeks a large British army was in South Africa; but it was beaten time after time, and some people thought South Africa would be lost altogether. Then the British Government sent out its two greatest generals, and asked help from the colonies. They sent us men, and at home many volunteers came forward, and soon we had in South Africa the largest army ever gathered together in our history. Then things began to mend. Lord Roberts marched to Pretoria, the capital of the country, and the Boers fell back before him. In one day four thousand of them were forced to yield. Then the Boers besieging Kimberley, Ladysmith, and Mafeking were obliged to go to the help of their friends in other parts of the country, and the people of these towns were free once more. Lord Roberts entered Pretoria on June 1, 1900. The Boers then split up into small parties, and fought against us for more than a year longer. In May 1902 the Boer leaders said they were ready to make peace. On June 1, 1902, news reached London that peace had been made.

THE END.

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